THE NORFOLK ISLAND NEWS

and Calendar of Island Events in March

MARCH 1976

THE LURE OF NORFOLK
--WHO FEELS IT?
--WHAT IS IT?

△

VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT: WHAT COUNCILLORS SAID ABOUT 'BUSINESS NAMES' AND THE NEW MT. PITT RESERVE

△

PLANNED BOARD WILL BE NO. 2 IN POWER

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A NORFOLK MUSEUM GETS UNDER WAY

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ISLAND BIRD SPECIES FACE EXTINCTION

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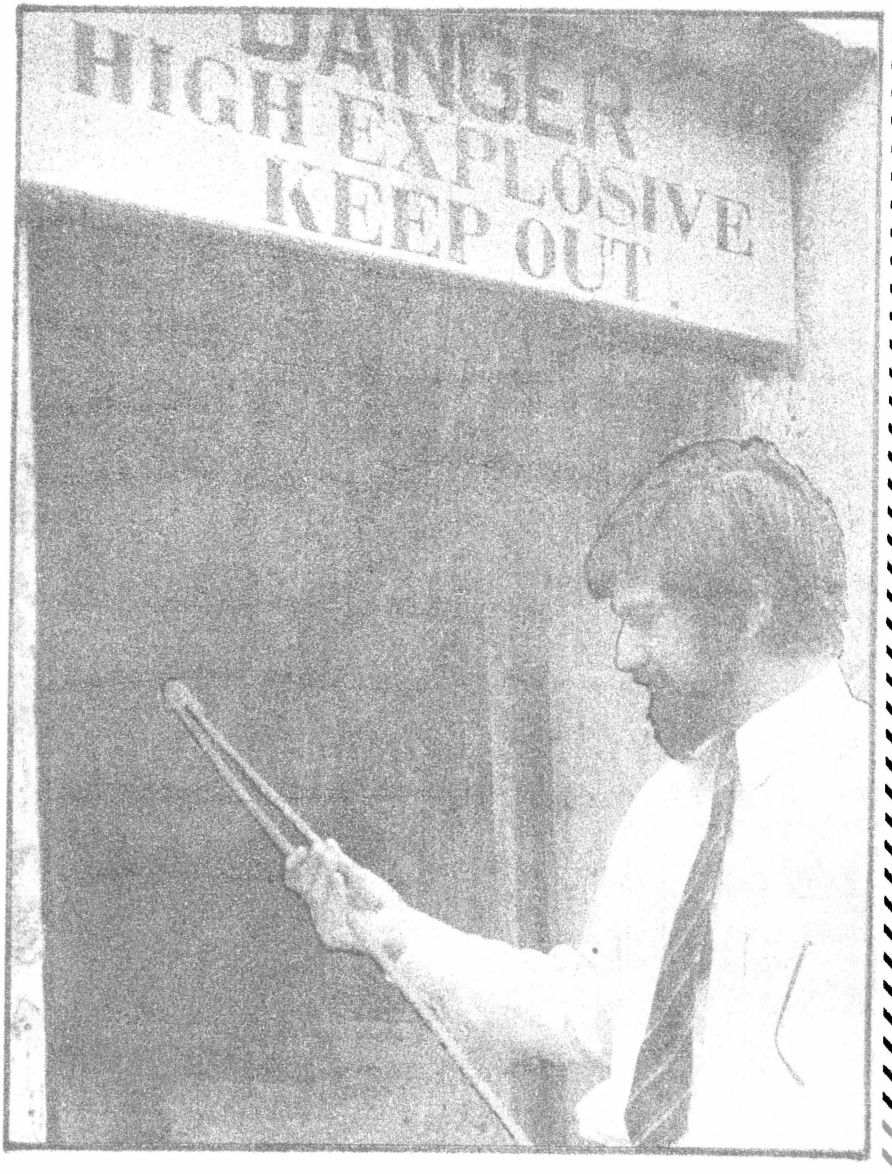

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For those who know and like Norfolk, the Island has a magnetic attraction. We asked people what it is, and they answered.

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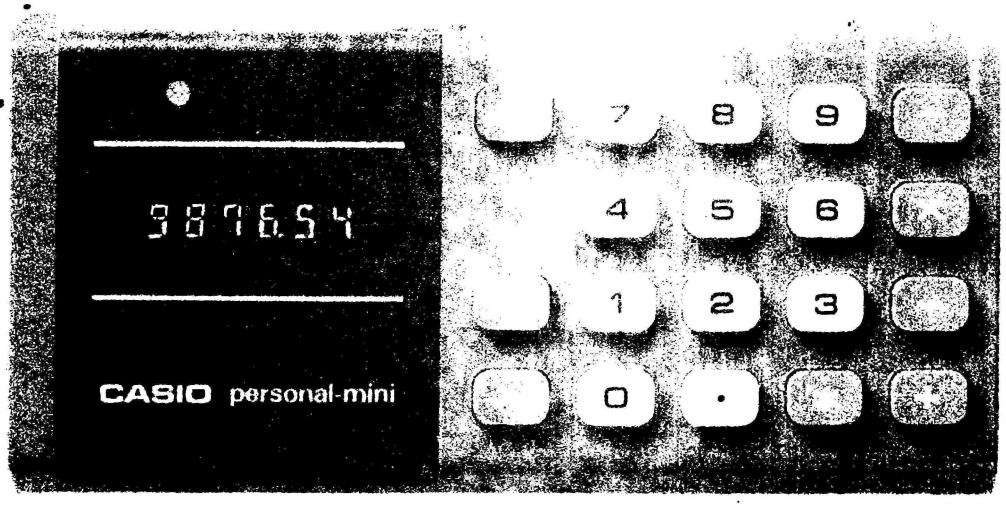

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the Lure of Norfolk Island

THERE IS A LURE about Norfolk Island.

It works a surprising change on many visitors: within a matter of days -- or sometimes hours -- they feel they have discovered Norfolk themselves. They become possessive and protective about the place. Visitors who feel this do not regard Norfolk as "a holiday spot" but as something unique and remarkable in a confused world. They come back again. Some of them find ways to come live here.

The lure of Norfolk is fully as strong for most people born here. Often they go overseas to learn and to build careers, but with few exceptions they feel a continuing pull to return. Many of them do so.

TO BEGIN WITH, the land itself has great strength of character.

When Her Majesty's surveyors set about dividing the Island into 50-acre homesteads (one for each of the families that came from Pitcairn Island), they were able to draw the boundaries so that each property had good farming land and also had a section of one of the creeks wandering down the gulley-bottoms to the sea.

They were ingenious surveyors, but their success also says something about Norfolk Island.

New visitors today, going for their first drive through the Island countryside, soon round a curve in the road and come upon a valley so sweet, sheltered and gentle that they feel it must have been waiting for them all these many years. It doesn't matter which road they have started out on. All Norfolk roads soon lead to such a valley, and there are valleys as lovely beyond.

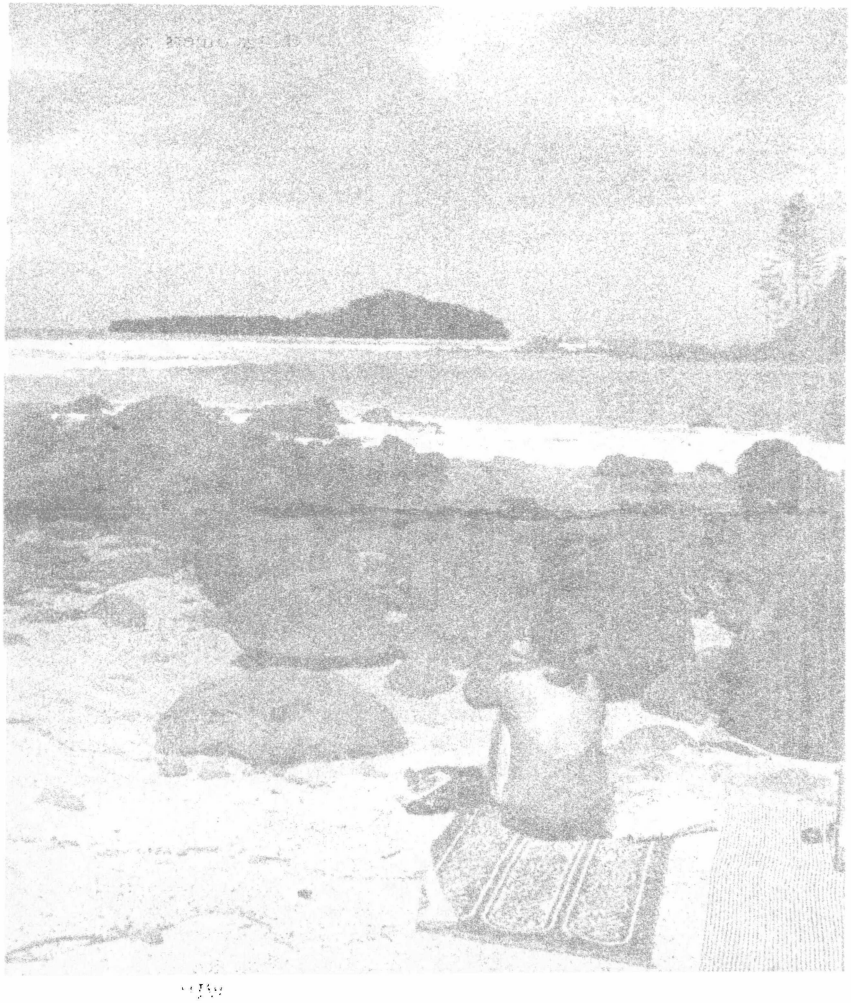
The hundred or so hilltops and valleys -- with a few larger flat areas at the airport, Burnt Pine, Anson Bay way and Steele's Point -- mean that the look of the Island and the feeling of place keep changing as you drive. This makes Norfolk feel much larger than it is. Even people who have lived all their lives here will tell you that they do not know all of it, and can mention some particularly lovely parts of it they have not visited for years.

The terrain of the Island continually rises and falls a hundred feet or so. It presents pleasant, mild challenges to people but does not dominate them. In the endless red outback of Australia or the massive mountains of New Zealand, new settlers felt fear at their own insignificance and were silent. When the Pitcairn settlers came to Norfolk the land welcomed them, and from those first days they have been chatting and gossiping about their Island and their mutual lives on it.

Across the entire Island, everything that meets the eye is in a comfortable, human scale. There are scarcely any two-storied buildings. The edges of the roads (those that are hard-surfaced) aren't kerbed or guttered -- they just feather off into grass at the edges. In large cities the world over, buildings speak a continual message to people passing on the footpath: I am a great deal more important than you are. Nothing says that on Norfolk Island.

●

Even the towering Norfolk pines -- which first rose here, and have become more widely known than Norfolk Island itself -- seem to have a kinship with human life on the Island. When they are young they have the fine, fragile beauty of children. As they grow a bit older they gain height and strength, their limbs take on a crisp regularity, and they become almost perfect specimens of fitness. Then comes full maturity, and eventually great age: they lose a branch here and there to a savage storm, they learn to live with wind and with gravity rather than defying them, and they acquire a powerful dignity and sweeping, weathered character. They don't dominate Norfolk Islanders. They are parables of patience, endurance and benignity, and when a great one finally crashes in a storm we know our



ON THE BEACH AT BUMBORAS, LOOKING OUT OVER THE ROCKS AND THE BREAKERS TO PHILLIP ISLAND, YOU ARE IN AN ANCIENT, PEACEFUL WORLD

own mortality and mourn a loss.

Onto the Island's 15 square miles of volcanic soil, something over 50 inches of rain falls each year. Because the earth is very porous (if you dig a hole on Norfolk, the soil you tamp back in won't fill the hole up again) gardens dry out quickly, and rain is almost always a blessing to people who live here. We know it can spoil a visitor's holiday, at almost any unpredictable time of the year, and we feel genuine sympathy for vacationers when a heavy rain lasts longer than a day or two. But how we love to hear it gurgling through the downspouts and into the tank...what a pleasure to see the growing things begin to lift their heads again...how refreshing to know that there'll be no dust, even on the most powdery dirt road, for a few days.

An average home on Norfolk catches enough water from one inch of rain to supply the family's domestic needs for two or three weeks. Rain has an entirely different meaning here than it does on a city-dweller's head. On Norfolk rain is life.

Practically anything will grow here. The temperature has not even approached freezing for some millions of years, so some fruits that require a frost don't bear well; and we lack the massive rainfall needed for cocoa, rubber and some other tropic plants. But avocado, peaches, macadamia nuts, pawpaw, citrus fruits, flax, tobacco, olives and many other things grow wild; lantana, which is carefully nurtured in California as a garden shrub, proliferates so that it is officially a noxious weed; and any vegetable from the gardens of the world will grow well if you give it adequate water in dry spells and keep chasing the grubs off.

Norfolk exports almost nothing. In the past there have been periods of a few years when overseas circumstances allowed bean seed, bananas or other crops to be raised here and freighted abroad; but in normal times the costs and uncertainties of ocean shipping have made export growing a profitless exercise. As the number of tourists visiting the Island has increased over the past decade, market gardening for local tables has become practical. In time to come, one might hope that tinned and frozen fruit and vegetables may become only a wintertime thing. Fresh-picked from the Norfolk soil, they are -- along with local eggs and handmade bread -- among the joys of life that the Island yields.

At the edges of the Island, Norfolk in most places simply stops abruptly, with almost-sheer clay cliffs plunging 200 feet or so to a rubble of basalt boulders washed by the South Pacific. At Kingston, on the south side, hills slope to a flatland just above sea level, where there is a half-mile or so of fine bathing beaches enclosed by a coral reef; and at Anson Bay, on the northwest, a long but quite walkable path leads down to a lovely crescent of sand that catches a fine, gentle surf in a westerly wind.

Beyond the cliff bases, beyond the sand, beyong the reef -- the Pacific rolls all the way from South America. Apart from Phillip and Nepean, two neighbouring, almost barren and uninhabited islands, Norfolk stands very much alone. It is the name-source for the Norfolk Ridge, which stretches almost 1,000 miles under the ocean surface from New Zealand northwest to New Caledonia. The air we breathe is as uncontaminated as the earth knows. Our visitors arrive only by a flight of several hours or longer, or by a voyage of several days or longer, from parts of the world many people on Norfolk have never seen.

maybe the reasons are simple...

When you ask Norfolk people why they love the Island - or why they think others do - you tend to get one kind of answer from those of Pitcairn lineage, and another from former mainlanders.

Historian Les Brown thinks the reasons are pretty plain. "People who were born here love it simply because it's their home," he says. "There's a natural desire in human beings to return some day to the place of their birth.

"People who weren't born here like it for peace, for health. Once a person has lived in a pressurised state, you unwind on Norfolk and appreciate how good it is to unwind, and people like that move here because they would like to stay unwound.

"It's like the old doctor many years ago. When a patient came in who was a nervous wreck, the first thing he recommended was a sea voyage. If in your mind you convert Norfolk to a huge ship, you'll find it's doing the same thing that the doctor used to say should be done.

"But if the population increased, you'd lose it," Les adds. "What was once tranquility becomes a furnace."

Edith Adams, who has detailed, first-hand experience from working in the Tourist Bureau, says the latest survey shows that mainlanders like Norfolk for its historic interest, then for its scenery, and then for its relaxing atmosphere that lets people get away from it all. "Shopping is only at best fourth on the list," she says.

She thinks mainlanders living on the Island either love the place, or don't like it but are here for particular reasons. "The ones who like it come to get away permanently from the things others get away from temporarily by visiting here," she says.

"A lot of them come thinking they'll find the pot at the end of the rainbow," she feels; "they think they'll be able to live an idyllic existence on the Island -- but often they're disappointed. Inflation is making it very diffi-

THE NEW YEAR'S RACES. PICNICS, A BARBEQUE, RAFFLES, BABIES. YOU CAN GET A BET DOWN BUT YOU CAN'T SAY ON WHICH HORSE AND RIDER. HALF THE PEOPLE IN THE WORLD WHO CARE ABOUT NORFOLK ARE THERE. THE OTHER HALF LIVE OVERSEAS, AND WISH THEY WERE THERE.

cult for many of them."

Another Adams -- Mac, who was born here but lived in Australia for some years, agrees that the feeling of "homeland" is basic for Pitcairn families. But apart from that he makes a logical contrast.

"Peacefulness, quietness, friendliness," he says. "It's just a rat race on the other side. Life is more free here than on the mainland. Over there you have all these rules and laws to abide by. It's a more regimented way of living.

"Actually," he inserts, "I don't think a bit of that would hurt here, on some things. But you have such freedom to roam around here. On the mainland if you walk through somebody's paddock and they don't know you, you'll get booted out.

"It's the best place on earth as far as I"m concerned."

Lou Evans, who returned recently, leaving a good business behind on the mainland, recommends that Island-born people living elsewhere should size up the situation pretty carefully if they're thinking of returning to live on Norfolk. He actually wishes he'd made the break and come back sooner, but says Norfolk life means a lot of work.

"I'd say people who are thinking of coming back should take a month over here, and look around, and think pretty hard about how they'd get on working for themselves," he says. "I'm working harder than I did on the mainland. But it's coming good."

"Why don't you ask why people hate Norfolk?..."

Occasionally you hear comments that are quite the reverse of the "island paradise" dream that some mainlanders thought they might realize by moving to Norfolk.

"Why do people love Norfolk?" one ex-mainlander says, "Why don't you ask why people hate Norfolk? Why don't you ask how people have been trapped here, and think it's like being in gaol, and can't get out?" And even people of Pitcairn descent have found that "home" wasn't what they thought it was, and have gone off to other countries again. The Island certainly isn't trouble-free.

One former mainland couple who have lived on Norfolk for many years say the place really isn't much different from any small and isolated community -- and that its charms are not really different from those of many villages in many parts of the world.

But listen to the women who work in the Philatelic Section in Kingston, chatting at the end of a day, and you hear something quite different.

"We're still trying to hang on to what the rest of the world has lost," says one. "Just barely hanging on to something the rest of the world is looking for."

"What is it? - It's very hard to say. There is something in the feeling of people to people, something to do with a fellow-feeling."

"The rest of the world is upside down," says another.

A third says "I think it's more the concern of man for his fellow man, that you don't find in cities. There's always someone here who cares -- always someone to give a hand."

"We're a world of our own here -- a wonderful world," says another.

"...a feeling of being of our own blood..."

"We have a community life. Small communities are like that in England and America, but we have so much family tie-up. It's been like one family since we left Pitcairn. People say 'Ah, you gang up on us mainlanders', but we don't have any such feeling. We just have a feeling of being of our own blood."

Another day, another part of the Island, another Pitcairner recently returned from some years abroad. "I wasn't really ready to come back yet. I came back because I had to, property that had to be dealt with. There are still places I want to see. But the time will come when I am ready to come back, and I'll be here. There's no place like it.

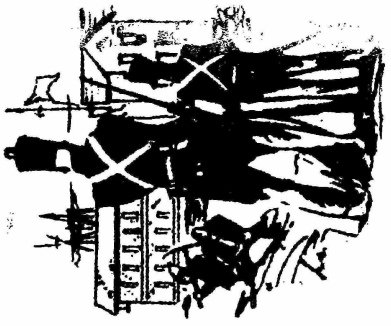
"But I worry whether it will s ay this way. I worry about the [illegible]ng, and whether they value what we always have."

Some long-time residents feel the best Norfolk era has already passed by - an era of even greater seclusion, of less coming-and-going, of harder and simpler living. "But I wouldn't trade back my car for a horse and buggy," says one.

Maybe the wisest answer of all was from Don Adams. Why do people love the place? "There's only one Norfolk," he said.

Only one place in the world with this distinctive mixture of history, family, the sea, gentle scenery, the pines, the white terns. A British broadcaster, commencing a Norfolk travelogue up on top of Mt. Pitt, began by saying "I am standing as near to paradise as perhaps I shall ever stand..."

Not everyone feels it, but for those who do, the lure of Norfolk pulls continually like a magnet.



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COUNCIL TRANSCRIPT

FOR NORFOLK-WATCHERS WHO LIKE KNOWING WHAT COUNCILLORS REALLY SAID AND WHERE THEY STAND

A BUSINESS NAMES registration law, based on the one in Canberra, was approved by January Council -- but the debate was hot, and an affirmative vote was reached only through a "first" in Council meetings since the departure of Administrator E. T. Pickerd. Here's part of the debate:

Cr. McIntyre: I'm completely opposed to the motion, Mr. Chairman. I think that the creation of 17 pages of new offenses for Norfolk Island is the last thing we need. I'm not aware of any problems such as are referred to in the memorandum. I'm not aware of anybody being misled by enterprises adopting the name of well-known institutions. I think the intimate community of Norfolk Island is such that people can deal with each other and know who they're dealing with, and I'm not aware of any problems in that respect. I am opposed to compulsory registration, compulsory provision of further pieces of paper to the Registrar. I think it's a waste of the Registrar's time, a waste of our money, as the

"no scandal, fraud, problem abroad.."

people responsible for advising on the public expenditure of Norfolk Island. It's more legislation, on a topic of absolutely no relevance. As far as I can see there's no case to answer, there's no scandal, fraud, problem abroad in the community to which this would be an answer. This is paper for paper's sake and I'm completely opposed to the motion.

Cr. McKenzie: First of all I should declare a pecuniary interest. I'm of the opinion that the Business Name Ordinance is unnecessary and not appropriate for Norfolk Island. The purpose of the proposed Ordinance is to prevent the use of trade names that enjoy wide recognition elsewhere. It has no other purpose -- for instance it does not offer protection against unfair trade practices. I don't think any member of the public, tourist or local, believes they are dealing with an international firm where a prominent business name is being used here, and I am sure no trader on Norfolk Island tries to give such an impression. Therefore, sir I consider that this Ordinance is not necessary. Sir, as I've said before, Ordinances for Norfolk Island should be as simple as possible, and as few as possible. Yet here we have another 28 pages of legal jargon, and I'm sure it's just going to add more rubbish to the ever-growing pile.

Cr. Blucher: I fully agree with the two previous Councillors that spoke on the subject. I supported - I think it was Cr. Bathie's motion at the last Council meeting when it was deferred for discussion, and I also supported a registration of business names, but only

"won't know where we will be turning"

in that sense. I think with a complicated Ordinance like this, Norfolk Island will become so confused in its Ordinances and complications that we won't know where we will be turning. The problem that I see that does arise at the present time as far as business names and confusion of business names is concerned is the fact that things that are imported into the Island are sometimes imported under different marks, such as shipping marks, and air freight marks and such, and even in numbers. This is to obviate costs in labour time and so forth in packaging, but all we need at the present time as far as I can see is a registrar of business names acting as businesses on Norfolk. Looking through this proposed Ordinance, I see where Secretaries, Directors and all sorts of people have to be named, their residential addresses and so forth; and also in one of the sections it says that a person may on payment of a prescribed fee inspect any document lodged under this Ordinance.... to my way of thinking, Mr. Chairman, that's part and parcel of a private business's private business. In other words, what is your private business should be your private business, and no one should be able to pay any prescribed fee to inspect your private matters if you run a private business.

"I couldn't agree less..."

Cr. Bathie: I couldn't agree less with what any of the other Councillors have said regarding that. Perhaps they haven't had the instances that I've come across in doing this. It's quite possible for a company or an individual to be trading under one name, be owned by others than what are purported to be the owners of the business, and have their cargo and various things brought in under another name. Now I think that this a thing to regularise the whole set-up. It leaves itself open for flouting of the intention of other laws that we have here, and I think it does nothing but add strength to the name of the person who is dealing with a firm, and the firm being able to obtain knowledge of the person who they are dealing with on Norfolk Island. I don't think there are any impositions there that would make it objectionable or in any way hard for a person to do it. It looks a lot of legislation -- it's a big field, and of course you can't just draft it in a couple of letters. We say we don't want complicated legislation, but at least we want legislation that's effective because we've got enough now that when the matters are brought up before the proper authorities, we find the law's inadequate. I think in a modern day and age, these laws, at the time when we move them are adequate to meet it. In 20 years' time these may become inefficient, too, for the purpose. But I'd support the motion that I've moved.

Cr. Smith: I think there's no harm. I think it's protecting the business people. I think Council has discussed this quite some time ago, on this aspect, and I see no harm in this legislation at all.

"people, bluntly, being taken for a ride..."

Cr. Blucher: It's only after listening to Cr. Bathie's comments that I find I have some other comments. With regard to people, bluntly, being taken for a ride through business deals, which are not quite regular, whenever anyone makes a business deal with anyone overseas, whether it be in a foreign country or Australia, you establish business relationships, and you also establish credentials and credit basis, and you also establish who you are, what you are and who your banker is, and you also have currency control, foreign exchange control and so forth, so as far as anyone on Norfolk Island taking anyone in a foreign country down, or even in Australia down, it's quite beyond comprehension; and also, as regards taking someone in the Norfolk Island community down, I just can't see that happening at all, because everyone knows everyone here. The only

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CT COUNCIL TRANSCRIPT continued

problem, as I said, that I can see is if a shipping mark comes in with ABC, it's very difficult for the Collector of Customs to find out who ABC is. But it can always be found through the actual shipper, and the supplier and manufacturer, who the supplier is, and it usually falls back on the shipper to find out and notify who the people are...

Cr. Smith: Regarding unmarked cases, I think there's quite a stack of it in Customs. If memory serves me right there's quite a few articles there that have been there for six months or so without anyone claiming the goods, and I think this is getting a really regular affair now, unmarked cases coming in, or a few marks that no one knows anything about.. if we bring this legislation in it will do away with all that, and I think it makes the customs work much easier too.

Cr. McIntyre: With respect to Cr. Smith, there's nothing in this Ordinance which will help in any way with unmarked cases or with shipping marks that are ambiguous or simply missing, and this Ordinance isn't the way to deal with that problem, nor is it intended to deal with that problem. This is an Ordinance to require registration of certain information, to provide penalties for non-compliance with the Ordinance, to require returns and changes of particulars to be lodged and fees paid, and a whole new routine of administration set up. It involves expense to the community. It involves everybody sitting down and reading a whole lot of words which were designed to deal with the metropolis of Canberra, and have nothing whatsoever to do with Norfolk Island...

Cr. Bataille: Mr. Chairman, I'm very reluctant with the introduction of any new legislation which makes it a bit more lengthy to deal with on Norfolk Island, but I'm afraid in this case I think it's necessary that we should try and update ourselves.... as much as I hate to see more legislation introduced into Norfolk Island. I think we're developing into the stage where we have to have these modern-day protections, whether we like it or not. I don't see any harm in the Ordinance. It may create a little bit of extra work in the business people registering their names, etcetera, but I will support the motion.

Cr. Bathie: We've just got to update. Look, we're not dealing in two-bob orders today. We're dealing in big amounts, and we find ourselves, as I've found myself in the position explained at the last Council meeting: you try to serve notice on somebody trading under that name, and get them to take it. Get somebody. "I'm not the owner." "I'm not." "No, I only work here, I'm not going to accept it" -- and that's what happens. I close the debate sir, and I'll leave it at that.

AT THAT POINT the "first" happened. Acting Administrator C.I. Buffett had abstained from voting ever since he took the Council chair last September. This time he was first to vote - and his vote made the motion pass rather than fail. The transcript continues:

Chairman: I'll put the motion. All in favour? The Chairman in favour, Cr. Bataille, Cr. Smith, Cr. Bathie. Against? Cr. McIntyre, Cr. McKenzie, Cr. Blucher. The motion is carried.

strong ownership feelings about Mt. Pitt Reserve

THE AUSTRALIAN Conservation Foundation and some serious residents here feel strongly that the Mt. Pitt park area should be under expert Australian supervision. A drive to make it a National Park brought strong objections in January, although Cr. Ab Bathie battled hard for the A.C.F. idea. Part of the debate:

Cr. Bathie: I think it would be desirable we have it declared that it's a National Park. But in proclaiming it - there's a difference in proclaiming it a National Park and naming it what you like. While it is proclaimed as a National Park, it can be named or known as any name you like to put onto it. The name is just nothing.

I think it has its advantages, having it a National Park, in view of what's contained there, if we're going to carry this to the ultimate aim of what was in the view of Councillors when we mooted this project, that it would be desirable to have skilled rangers, and there's provision for funds to be met, in Australia, for this type of thing....

Cr. Bataille: ..." Well, I have a compelling reason to the contrary, that it should not be declared a National Park, but a nature reserve. As a matter of fact, the whole of the Mt. Pitt area is a Nature Reserve as far as I'm concerned, but we've defined a certain area that is well, a park, a Norfolk Island park; and the reason

"control in Norfolk"

that I object to declaring it a National Park is that the control of the park can become outside of the control of Norfolk Island, and the community, and I think this is very necessary that the control should remain within Norfolk Island. I'd rather call it a Nature Reserve...

Cr. McIntyre: Mr. Chairman, I completely agree with the remarks of Cr. Bataille that the control of this park ought to remain on Norfolk Island. We've got too many parts of Norfolk Island under the control of other parties already, that relate to our own community. The park is something that relates to our own community. I don't mean by that that we're too proud to talk to them, or to be advised to a very large degree by them if they have expert information to offer. We offer them every co-operation, but this idea that we should part with control, and be subject to decisions made in their Department, in Canberra, is completely unacceptable to me...

Cr. Blucher: I certainly don't go along with the letter from the A.C.F. I believe that the reserve in Mt. Pitt belongs to Norfolk Island, and I think it belongs to the community and so therefore the control of that park should be the responsibility of the community...

Cr. McKenzie: My views are the same sentiments of the three previous speakers, Sir; the only thing that concerns me is that if we did come under their jurisdiction it's possible, well, we say righto, you've got to allocate so many dollars each year to this park, and we possibly at times won't be able to afford that sort of thing, and therefore I cannot support it.

Cr. Smith: I want to state, Sir, that I support all Councillors on this. Definitely no, we shouldn't lose control of our own land, and I think we've got the capable staff here to run it, and I'd like to see no interference from any outsiders on this.

Cr. Bathie: In the true sense of the words it is not a reserve, as we would loosely use the term as a reserve. Now I don't go along with the idea that we can run it ourselves. Now, if you take a trip around the coast, particularly Headstone, out towards Anson Bay, have a look at the pines that have cost a lot of money to be planted there, and look at the state they're in at the present time. We ask the Forestry Officer to do a pretty tall order. They work to full capacity on what they're

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THE NORFOLK ISLAND NEWS

THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR PEOPLE WHO CARE ABOUT NORFOLK

CT COUNCIL TRANSCRIPT continued

capable of doing with the manpower at their disposal. Now we see pines being planted, in the beer crates, two things happen to them. First, they get choked out with grass, and they get stunted. Secondly, they get neglected when they're on their own, for the need to cut grass, which there's not manpower to do, and thirdly, if they do survive and get above the beer crate, the cattle lop them off. Now, we're going to find ourselves in the same position with the park. We know that money's scarce here. I'd look upon it as a gift that the Government, on a national basis, is prepared to do National Parks. I would express some doubt whether the present Government is going to be as liberal in their intentions for National Reserves than that of the previous Government, but still, it's a proposition that has been put forward. There's no firm contract that's been entered into. But personally myself I'd like to see the area proclaimed a National Park, and leave the naming to anything else. It doesn't necessarily have to come under the National Parks, but at least if we find ourselves where we can't do it, and it's being neglected, and cattle getting in again, or still in, we could approach them if it gets beyond us, but at least it has been in intents and purposes a National Park. Whether we negotiate for it to come under the A.C.F. is a different point altogether, and they're two issues.

Cr. Bataille: I see no reason why we can't select one of our own young islanders to go away and be trained as a forest ranger, by the A.C.F. if necessary, to come back and take over the running of this park under our jurisdiction, and not under the jurisdiction of the A.C.F. I think we've got to face up to the fact that we've got to spend funds on this reserve, or whatever we're going to call it, but I think that we should probably say who of our young residents that are interested in this sort of career, and that probably could go away for further training like our forestry officer did in his younger days, and seconded to the Department of Forestry. I see no reason why we shouldn't select some young Norfolk Islander who's interested in this and be seconded to the A.C.F. for training as a forest ranger...

(Lists of suggested names for the park were then read out. A motion that the park be named the Norfolk Island Nature Reserve was passed with Crs. Bataille, Smith and Mc Kenzie in favour, Crs. Blucher and Bathie against, and Cr. McIntyre abstaining.)

TEXT OF THE A.C.F. LETTER THAT HAD COUNCIL WORRIED

LETTER FROM the Australian Conservation Foundation, 20 Oct 1975 to Hon. G.M. Bryant, Minister for the Capital Territory.

******

Dear Mr. Bryant:

You will be aware that the A.C.F., in its 1968 Special Publication No. 1, The Conservation of Norfolk Island, recommended the creation of a National Park on Norfolk Island, and that there has been gradual progress toward achievement of the Park.

We understand that your Department has now expressed the view that the proposed park does not conform to the guidelines established by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, and is not therefore appropriate to be called a "National" Park. The Foundation, while not particularly concerned about the actual title, would be extremely concerned if it happened that adoption of any name other than National Park involved the park being managed by any organisation other than the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service. We believe it to be fundamentally important that the park on Norfolk Island should be managed by properly trained professional managers. In due course it may be practicable for residents to take over this management job, but quite clearly for the immediate future the required skills and experience are lacking on the Island. We have raised the matter of the name with the National Parks and Wildlife Service, which has expressed the opinion that the R.U.C.M. guidelines are guidelines only in terms of size criteria, and that it would be in order for the park to be named a National Park.

In order that the concept of proper management should be kept in clear focus, we consider that the title National Park should be adopted, unless there are compelling reasons to the contrary. The Foundation raised this point in its recent submission to the Royal Commission into matters relating to Norfolk Island. I am sending a copy of this letter to your colleague, the Minister for Environment, for his information.

Yours sincerely,
Geoff Mosely,
Director.

ZONING REGULATIONS FOR THE ISLAND ARE A LONG WAY OFF YET, BUT IT LOOKS AS THOUGH COUNCIL WILL LOSE A LOT OF ITS PRESENT POWER OVER NEW DEVELOPMENTS

NEW BODY WILL DECIDE HOW YOU MAY USE YOUR OWN LAND

A POWERFUL NEW "Development Planning Board" will be set up to administer Norfolk's forthcoming zoning law.

The new body will be a major force in the Island's development, and will have powers second only to those of the Norfolk Island Council.

It will have the right to stop illegal building from going ahead. It will be able to order a property owner to comply with the zoning law, or order the owner to stop using a building for some particular use. If the owner fails to comply, the Board will have authority to order the building pulled down.

Members of Council will be barred from sitting on the Planning Board, which is meant to be independent of Council.

This was settled after heavy debate at a special Council meeting held February 11. The meeting was not gazetted or broadcast, and although the gallery was open no members of the public attended.

The Planning Board may even have power to review and control the use of buildings built before the law comes into effect. This point was discussed at the Council meeting, with three lines of thought put forward. Cr. McIntyre said he thought it was intended that the Board would be able to review any existing buildings, and might or might not allow them to continue in their present uses. Cr. Bathie said he thought the idea was to wait until a non-conforming building became dilapidated and needed major repairs, and review its use then. Cr. McKenzie said he thought it was agreed that existing buildings would not be affected at all.

Debate moved on to other aspects of the planned law without any firm decision on retrospectivity. The question may wait until the Attorney General's Department in Canberra has drafted the complete law and returns it for Council's final consideration.

The crux of Council's debate on the 11th was whether the new board should have strong powers on its own, or whether Council should continue to have the final right of refusal on new commercial buildings.

President of Committees Richard Bataille argued forcefully that Council should continue to have final approval right. He was supported by Cr. Bathie, but could not raise the numbers to carry the vote as he wanted it. Crs. McIntyre and Smith voted against Council's making the final decision in each case. Crs. Blucher, McKenzie and Snell sat on the fence and abstained from voting on the issue.

"The idea that everything should go through a mysterious closed session process in order to get a yes or a no, is a drag on the natural way people think," Cr. McIntyre said.

Cr. Bataille said he thought the correct way for future development to be controlled was to have intending builders apply first to the Building Board, then to the new Planning Board, and finally to Council.

"The concern of Council," Cr. Mc Intyre argued, "is to get a set of rules on the books which will show what Council does mean... let us get away from this business of discretion, and liking this fellow and not liking that fellow's plan...I dislike the idea that we cannot say what we mean, but that we have to have everything put to us so we can work out what we mean. I think that's wrong... get away from this closed session business. Get away from these unseen considerations. And get away particularly from the notion that we don't know what we mean until we hear what we say."

As the proposed zoning law is now taking shape, the Planning Board would have authority to take a wide range of things into consideration in approving or refusing a planned building. These include -

- The suitability of the site for the proposed use.
- The likely effect on "existing or forseeable future amenities" of the neighborhood.
- Health.
- Safety.
- Convenience.
- The "economic and general welfare of the inhabitants of Norfolk Island".

When an owner applied for permission to build a new building, there would be public notification of the application, and anyone would be invited to lodge objections to the plan so that the Planning Board would be fully informed of any problems the building might create.

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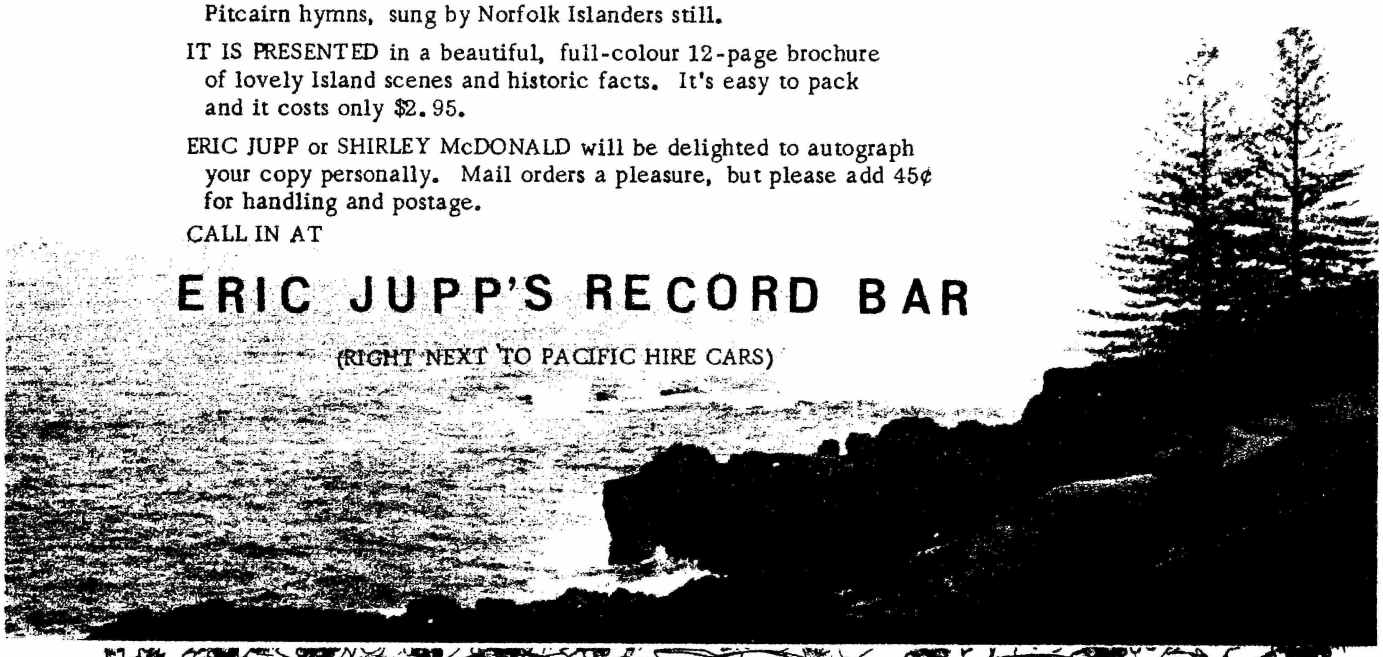

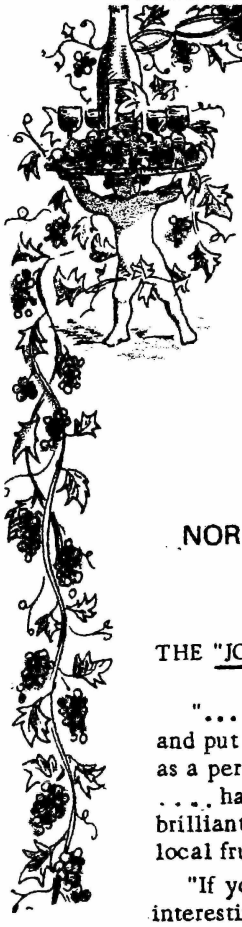

THE "NATIONAL TIMES":

"...Paddy and Dick Cavill have already made, it seems to me, a distinctive cuisine of their own, created from the specialties of the island itself."

THE "AUSTRALIAN":

"At the Garrison, all sorts of original dishes prepared from the local produce by Paddy Cavill...Let's hope the good and original thrive!"

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"...a young couple started a restaurant and put the finishing touch to Norfolk Island as a perfect holiday place...Paddy and Dick ....have a cocktail bar where they serve brilliant concoctions using the juice from the local fruit, and a good wine list...

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QANTAS "AIRWAYS":

"The Garrison restaurant is well worth an evening or two...The food is delightfully different with the emphasis on local products."

"QV":

"Although the island's abundant hotels, motels and guest-houses often have all-inclusive tariffs with nicely prepared and often extravagant food, it would be a shame to forego a visit to the Garrison Restaurant."

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So All Can Enjoy Norfolk's Treasures

A NORFOLK ISLAND MUSEUM is on the way to becoming a reality.

It probably won't open its doors for many months, but that's because it takes care and planning to get a museum established, if you want it to be a permanent thing.

Until January (when work began on cleaning and cataloguing a collection of historic items gathered by the Historical Society) most of the effort to create a museum went into careful organising and planning.

Former Administrator E.T. Pickerd set the ball rolling by deciding that the Norfolk museum should be controlled by an independent board of trustees, with powers assigned to it by a new ordinance.

It can take two years or more for an ordinance to be written and made into law. To short-cut that long delay, Air Commodore Pickerd used his own authority to set up an "interim Museum Trust" and told its members to establish the museum.

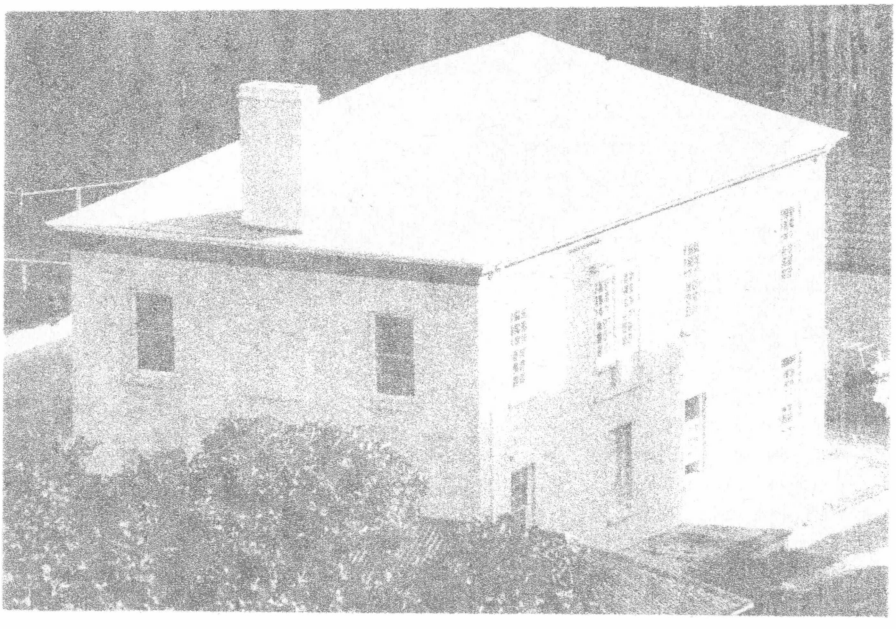
The initial board includes four members nominated by the Historical Society and three nominated by the Administrator. They are Ab Bathie, David Buffett (president), Gil Hitch (secretary), Merval Hoare (treasurer), Ed Howard (vice president), Wilf Randall (original president) and Ray Reeves.

A top Australian museum expert, Mr. H.H.G. McKern (deputy director of the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences in Sydney) visited Norfolk last year and studied the possibilities.

He produced a 26-page report of recommendations, and with a few minor amendments it has been adopted by the interim Trust as the master plan for Norfolk's museum.

Does the Island really warrant a museum? Mr. McKern says emphatically yes. "The Island's geological nature, its flora and fauna, its long isolation from other land masses, and the history of human occupation and its interaction with the flora and fauna, are of the highest interest and importance," he reported to the Special Minister of State in Canberra.

The Norfolk Museum should tell visitors and residents about all those subjects, Mr. McKern strongly urged.



MUSEUM EXPERT H.H.G. McKERN SAYS A GOOD NORFOLK MUSEUM WILL NEED ALL THE SPACE IN THE OLD OFFICERS QUARTERS AT KINGSTON -- FOR NATURAL HISTORY AND HISTORIC DISPLAYS, OFFICE SPACE, AND WORK SPACE FOR VISITING RESEARCHERS. BUT THE ADMIN AND THE JUDGE NEED MUCH OF IT NOW, SO THE MUSEUM WILL START SMALL.

Mr. McKern pointed out that painstaking thoroughness is essential in order for the museum to succeed. If you're starting a real museum, he said, the first thing you need to get is proper filing cards, and boxes to keep them in.

Then (he said) you need to make three inventories: a set of cards describing what you have now---with full details on each card telling what the item is, where and with whose help you got it, how long and how wide it is, what it weighs, what its significance seems to be, and what number you've assigned to it. Then, an inventory of what you think you might be able to add to the museum, with similar details of each item. Last, an inventory of what you know of elsewhere that might possibly be lent to the museum, or perhaps even willed to it some day.

At the same time (he said) you ought to start saving the few things you have now. Kingston's salt air, and Norfolk sunlight, and rust, are chewing away at them. Some have already deteriorated beyond saving. Others will reach that point soon. So -- another recommendation -- start holding working bees to wire-brush, rust-protect, cover up, re-paint and salvage the existing collection.

Those jobs started in January.

Mr. McKern was a bit dubious about the size of the collection of articles worth displaying, but people who know Norfolk better think there may be a wealth of old treasures hidden away.

They're kept in closets for several reasons, apparently. One is a worry that if they were brought out and made known, Government officers might say "Wait on, those belong to the Crown" and take them away, perhaps never to be seen again. Long Norfolk memories can recall some precedent for feeling that way.

One of the main objectives for the new museum is to organise it in a professional way so that people donating historic items can be assured the items will be protected, and people lending items can be assured that their ownership will be permanently recorded.

For example, the ancient mess table is said to be from the stone quarry on Nepean Island. Legend says a convict stonecutter, worried about lack of drinking water, set out on it as a raft. It took him three days to battle his way to Norfolk, but he got here. A prominent Australian is said to have the table. Might it be given or lent permanently to a Norfolk museum? Certainly not, if the museum were just a bee in someone's bonnet. But if it is a serious, soundly-established museum....

Mr. McKern reported on the smallness of the existing collection, which has been locked up in the old powder magazine in the Admin compound at Kingston. "The total number, perhaps 300 objects, is not large," says his report. "Of these, perhaps 60 or 70 would be worth displaying," he adds. "Without extensive cleaning, conservation measures and/or restoration, scarcely any are at present in fit condition for public display," he concluded pointedly.

But Ab Bathie, one of the trustees, has a different view. "He might well think our stuff is rubbishy," says Ab, "but it means something to us -- and you'll be surprised at what comes to light once we get something going."

SAME-DAY NEWSPAPERS
late in the day on
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Sunday Telegraph
Sydney Herald
Sun-Herald
Telegraph
FINANCIAL REVIEW
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NORFOLK ISLAND STATIONERS

AT THE MILK BAR
Ferny Lane

SEVERAL NORFOLK ISLAND BIRD SPECIES MAY BECOME EXTINCT BEFORE LONG

THIS YEAR will see the start of a regular bird-banding program on Norfolk Island, and a book on island birds may possibly be published.

Less happily, 1976 may be the year one or two more species are pronounced extinct -- the black-and-white sparrow, the Norfolk Island owl and the Norfolk Island blackbird.

Island naturalist Owen Evans will band migratory birds for a program run by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research in Australia. Mr. Evans' work will help solve the puzzle of just where Norfolk's migratory birds go -- the wedgetailed mutton bird (also known as the shearwater and the ghost bird), the gannet, the sooty tern and the red-tailed tropic bird.

Sporadic banding has been carried out over the years, sometimes by visiting naturalists. Late 1975 two C.S.I.R.O. scientists holidaying on Norfolk, John McKean and John Lewis, banded about 1000 birds. "You average about one return out of every 2000 birds banded", Mr Evans said.

John McKean has banded mutton birds on Lord Howe, and they have been traced in the Philippines. Naturalists in other countries report sightings of the bands to the C.S.I.R.O. and the pieces of the jig-saw are put together there.

Banding is carried out at night, when the birds have returned to their nests or burrows.

The book on Norfolk birds is planned by the Red Cross Auxiliary. However, getting good quality photographs is a problem, and some people feel that a first-rate nature photographer is needed here, with local residents showing him round.

The Flora & Fauna Society discussed publishing a bird book a few years ago, but found they would have to order a printing of 100, 000 books to bring the price down to $1 a copy. This was too big a project.

But the future is gloomy for many island species unless early action is taken to preserve them.

The black-and-white sparrow has not been sighted for many years and the species is now missing.

The owl is now classed as being in extreme danger, yet only a generation ago was found all over Norfolk.

Under suspicion of killing the species off are rats, the recently introduced New Zealand ant and the ferral cat -- the household puss abandoned by people leaving the island and left to fend for itself.

The prime culprit in reducing the numbers of the white-headed Norfolk Island blackbird rests with the introduced English blackbird. Drastic action taken immediately to wipe out the English bird or at least heavily reduce its numbers might allow the island bird a chance of survival.

At least one authority believes that the only chance for many endangered birds is for the island to build a huge aviary of the kind seen in many developed countries -- maybe two acres in area -- with a full-time naturalist in charge. And that's not much of a chance.

Other island birds with only a slim chance of survival unless something is done are the green parrot and the Norfolk Island starling.

Another bird living on borrowed time is the little blackwinged petrel, which nests on the grass slopes out at Duncombe Bay. The colony has been nearly wiped out by cats, which just eat the breast out of the bird.

In fact, the cat has greatly reduced the numbers of all Norfolk birds, including the beautiful fairy tern, the robin and the fan-tail.

If it's already too late for some birds, others may be saved, experts believe, if the Mount Pitt Reserve is properly looked after -- damage by intruding humans and cattle prevented, cats and rats controlled, and noxious introduced plants and weeds eliminated and replaced by plantings of native flora.

This, naturalists believe, would enable some birds to continue to live happily in something approaching their natural habitat.

PLEASE USE ELECTRICITY SPARINGLY

LATE IN FEBRUARY a 120KVA generator at the power house failed, and will need major repairs.

Meanwhile one of the larger generators is nearing its time for periodic maintenance.

If residents and visitors use power sparingly, the larger generator may be able to operate correctly until the 120KVA set is back in operation.

But if there are even moderately heavy demands, the big set will have to be shut down, and this may lead to enforced power shut-offs in various parts of the Island.

HOURS

POST OFFICE: Open 8.54am-12.30pm and 1.15pm-5pm weekdays only. (Yes, 8.54 is correct. Postmaster Foxy Mc Coy says it's an odd time, and that helps assure it opens right on the tick.) Mail closing times vary with aircraft departure times, but generally are 4.00pm to catch the Auckland plane the next morning, and 11.30am to catch a Sydney plane that afternoon. Check if timing is important.

TELEPHONES: Local phones operate automatically, 24 hours. Overseas calls can be made at the OTC building in New Cascade Road 10am - 8pm Mon-Fri; 10am-6pm Sat; 10-12 and 3-6pm Sun. Sydney calls $3.75 for 3 minutes; Auckland calls $4.68 for 3 minutes. Transmission is by radio to Sydney. Quality is usually extremely good.

TELEGRAMS: Open 9am-6pm Mon-Fri; 9am-2.30pm Sat; 9am-2pm Sun. Charge 5¢ a word to Australia or NZ.

BOND STORE: (at Kingston) 10am-1pm and 2pm-4pm Mon-Fri. A bond store branch at the airport is open for plane arrivals and departures seven days a week, for passengers only.

DOCTOR: (at N.I. Hospital). By appointment Mon-Fri. Emergencies, telephone 2091 or 2092.

DENTIST: (also at N.I. Hospital). By appointment, Mon-Fri. Telephone 2091 or 2092.

HOSPITAL VISITING HOURS: 11-12, 2-4 and 7-8.30 daily.

BANKS: 10am-3pm Mon-Thurs, open to 5pm Fri.

STAMPS: At P.O. or at Island Shop several doors East. For back issues of N.I. stamps, see Amy Bathie at De Chesne's store across from the Milk Bar.

ADMINISTRATION: Offices open 10am-1pm and 2pm-5pm Mon-Fri.

AFTER-HOURS SHOPPING: The Milk Bar 7.30am-9pm Mon-Sat and 9am-7pm Sun; Burns Philp (Middlegate store) 8.30am-8.30pm Mon-Sat. 10am-7pm Sun.

TOURIST BUREAU: (Centre of Burnt Pine) 9-12 and 2-4 Mon-Fri but closed Wed afternoon; 9-12 Sat.

QANTAS - AIR NZ: Burnt Pine Office open 9-5 weekdays, 9-12.30 Wed-Sat.

PETROL STATIONS: There are two. Norfolk Island Motors, at the eastern edge of Burnt Pine, is open 8am-6pm every day but Sunday. Central Service Station, at the western edge of Burnt Pine, is open 8.30am-5.30pm Mon-Fri, 8.30am-1.30pm Sat, 9-12 Sun. Nights and Sunday afternoons you're out of luck.

Welcome to Norfolk!

WE HOPE NORFOLK ISLAND will please you.

The people of the Island have a plain, direct but gentle outlook on life. They will be glad to help you, if you are plain, direct and gentle also -- and not in too much of a city hurry.

You may have your days already filled with plans for the time of your visit, but if you haven't we would like to offer three suggestions.

Try to learn a little of Norfolk's history, which is unique. There are two separate threads: one of the early colonial era, when the Island was the second British settlement in the Pacific; the other beginning with the mutiny on "The Bounty" and going through Pitcairn Island.

Get out and see the Island, as many corners of it as you can. It is varied, charming and memorable.

And some of the time, use old means of getting places: walk, or ride a horse. Enjoy yourself!

SHOPPING

FOR MOST VISITORS Norfolk's shopping is one of the highlights of a holiday here.

It goes far beyond the hurried and sterile "duty-free" shops that dot airports around the world. There are three main reasons why:

- Shopping at home can be almost a chore. On a holiday it can be a real pleasure and can provide you with lasting reminders of your stay here.
- The range of shopping on Norfolk is remarkable. If you live in Australia or New Zealand you'll find lovely things on display that are near-impossible to find at home.
- In many lines there are real bargains to be had. Prices 20-30% below mainland prices are common, and savings of half or more are available on some lines.
- Prices are as stated -- haggling isn't part of Norfolk shopping. The ethical standards of Island merchants are generally excellent, and if something you've bought proves deficient, most are happy to exchange it or return your money. It's worth asking in advance, however, to be sure.

Shopping hours in Burnt Pine are generally 9am-12.30, and 2pm-5.30, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons almost all shops are closed. A fair number are open Sunday mornings, but not all.

PITCAIRN AND NORFOLK stamps, 1st day covers

Back issues - variety of sets
DeCHESNE'S STORE - Hospital Corner

Note - DeChesne's is also stockist of back issues of the Norfolk Island News

BEST BUYS

YOU'LL FIND YOUR OWN "Best Buys" depending on your own needs and purse, but The News asked some of the Island's leading importers to pick a few items they believe are particularly good value at the moment. Here's what they told us:

International Duty-Free: "Baby prams that fold up like an umbrella. At $16.75 they're half the price of Sydney discount stores."

Prouds: 'Omega watches".

Casa Kui: "Our jewellery and other items from China, because of our long-standing connection with China."

The Milk Bar: "Planes permitting, we have same-day mainland newspapers four evenings a week".

Duncombe Bay Garage: "Casio miniature calculators, which are on sale at several different shops".

Martin's Agencies: "Remington electric shavers and hot-combs" -- also retailed at several Island shops.

BURNS PHILP: "'Silit' German enamelled cookware, from $2.70 to $21.70".

CAMERALINES: "The Olympus OM-1 camera, with F1.8 lens, at $179.50".

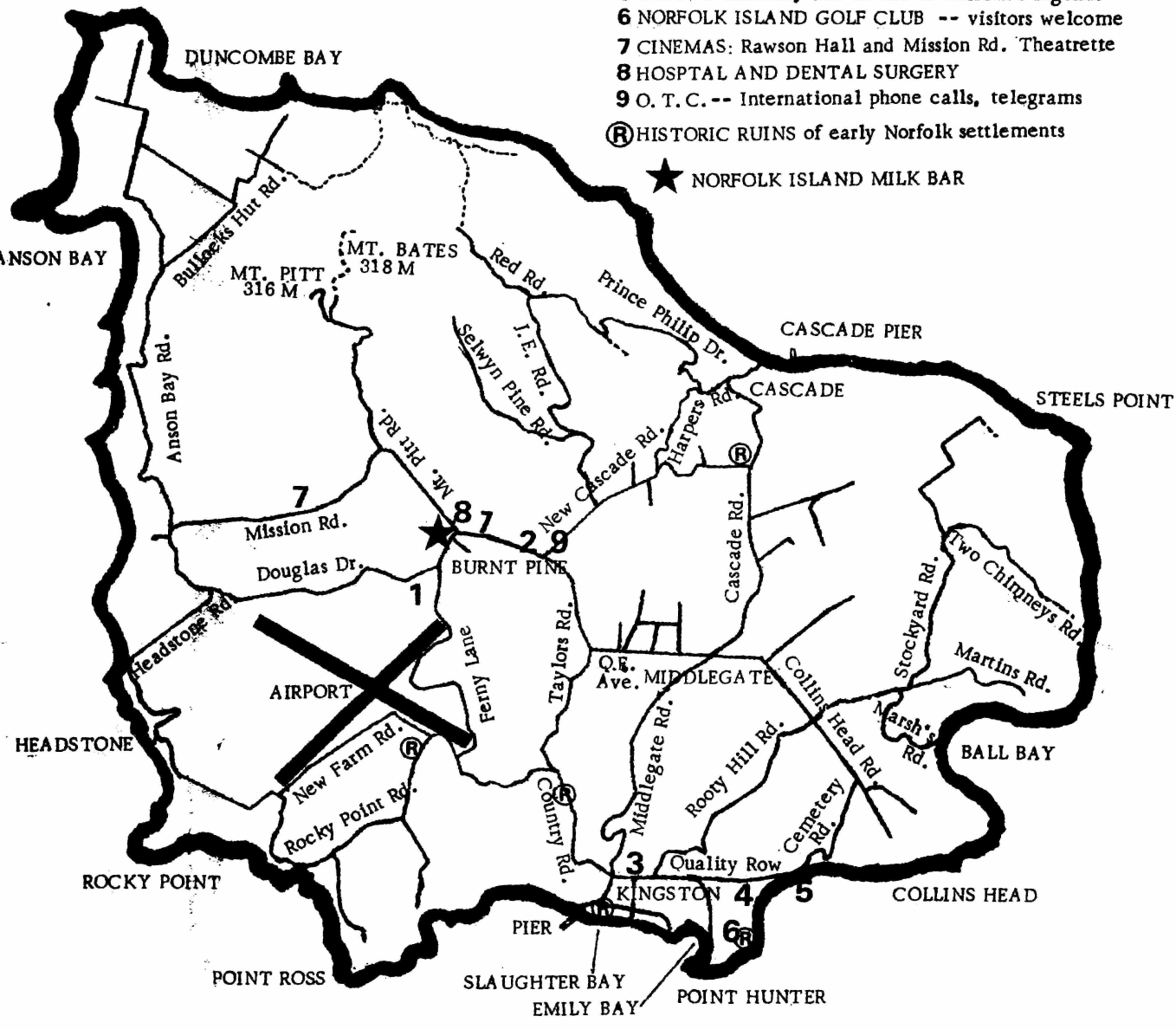
PRENTICES: "National 3-in-1 stereo-radio-cassette-record player, under $200."

8-Page LIFT-OUT of essential information for visitors: keep it with you!

IT'S A PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU TO **NORFOLK ISLAND**

Here are a few of the many things to see on the island. Enjoy them during the day -- you can shop late at the Milk Bar

1 AIRPORT TERMINAL and Air Cargo office
2 SHOPPING CENTRE, Post Office, Banks, Tourist Board
3 ISLAND ADMINISTRATION ; Bond Store for spirits
4 CEMETERY -- touching inscriptions on old headstones
5 BLOODY BRIDGE, site of one of Norfolk's legends
6 NORFOLK ISLAND GOLF CLUB -- visitors welcome
7 CINEMAS: Rawson Hall and Mission Rd. Theatrette
8 HOSPTAL AND DENTAL SURGERY
9 O. T. C. -- International phone calls, telegrams
Ⓡ HISTORIC RUINS of early Norfolk settlements
★ NORFOLK ISLAND MILK BAR



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All roads lead to the complete holiday mini-mart —

★ Norfolk Island Milk Bar

"THE FIRST SHOP YOU COME TO AFTER LANDING AT THE AIRPORT"

OPEN 7 DAYS — 7.30 am to 9 pm (Except Sundays, when we get lazy and are open only from 9 am to 7 pm -- sorry about that....)

We want to help you make the most of your time on Norfolk so we carry freshly-baked Norfolk Island bread...eggs...teas and coffees...a complete range of tinned foods...frozen meats, vegetables, fish, sweets, pastries and 'heat-n-serve' items ...soft drinks...biscuits, crackers and savouries...ice cream...imported cheeses...lollipops...magazines...batteries... cigarettes...wrapping paper...personal and gift stationery...greeting cards...bug sprays...toothpaste and medicine cabinet items...novelties...mainland newspapers...tinopeners...candles...first aid requirements...olives, pickles, nuts and condiments...picnic supplies...games...artists' requisites...gourmet foods...sliced luncheon meats...fresh fruits and vegies, when Norfolk has them...needles and cotton, and almost anything else you've forgotten, every day of the week, early & late.

MIGRATING

IF NORFOLK ISLAND turns out to be the "island paradise" you've always been looking for, and you decide you'd like to live here, you'll find a tangled road ahead.

The Island has its own Immigration laws, and (except for people who were born here and are returning) no newcomers are currently being admitted to live on Norfolk permanently.

You may buy freehold property, but owning it doesn't entitle you to live on it. Buying a business doesn't mean automatic entry, either - particularly if the present owners intend to stay on the Island. Australian citizenship doesn't mean you can stay, even though Norfolk is a Territory governed by Australia.

These are the categories set out by law and current policy:

- Permanent resident status is conferred by being born here; or by action of the Administrator, after five years of living on the Island.
- Enter-and-Remain permits: granted to settlers intending to remain permanently, and hoping to be classed as Residents after five years. There is currently a stop-order on the issuance of any further such permits.
- Temporary Entry Permits: granted to an individual and his family for a period of six months, if the person is needed to fill a particular job on the Island. Subject to renewal every six months, and cancellable if the person ceases to hold the position he or she was admitted to fill.
- Visitors' Entry Cards: good for 30 days only. Can usually be renewed once for a further 30 days, but this is not automatic.

CHANNER'S CORNER FLATS

P.O. Box 235, Norfolk Island

Ideally situated - easy walk to the centre of town - convenient if you don't wish to hire a car.

Natural pine surroundings. Fully equipped, with all modern conveniences, including linen.

$16 a night for two, extra persons $5 night. Apply your Travel Agent.

IN BLOOM

THERE ARE MANY lovely gardens on Norfolk and it is amazing what some people do with their gardens here in spite of long periods of very dry weather or strong winds or occasionally, weeks of hard rain. Many of the best gardens, how ever, are quite enclosed. The Islanders have always loved flowers and have many unusal ways of displaying them in their homes-putting frangipani blossoms on a piece of straw from a broom or arranging hibiscus on a dramatic branch of dried Natal Plum just to mention a couple.

This month will not be a particularly good month to see flowering shrubs on Norfolk as we have had quite dry weather and many of them are wizzened up. However, Red Guava will be at their peak and on your walks you can inhale the rich smell of the fruit which has ripened on the trees or bushes. Red Guava jelly is a favorite of islanders and a little sliced guava with lemon and sugar allowed to sit in the fridge overnight makes a lovely breakfast fruit full of vitamin C.

On the S.E. side of Mt. Pitt and on Mt. Bates you will see wild lemons growing. These island lemons make wonderful lemon pies and the Island women are expert at making them.

You will see Wild Olive growing everywhere but no olives growing. There are two or three growing in private gardens which bear fruit and we have heard that the wild ones would if they were fertilised but we can't be sure.

There are many ferns and mosses in the forsets of the Mt. Pitt Reserve, Palm Glen, the north slope of Mt. Bates, Now-Now Gully and some cliff faces.

There are many creepers on the coastal cliffs and occasionally you will see a wild Clematis. Oleander is beautiful at this time of the year(white, pink and red).

PATON PLACE

may be out of town but for the discriminating buyer it is a "must". You will find interesting goods such as: -

CLOISONNE WARE - hand enamelled, copper based Vases, Jars, Bowls etc. from Peking

SCOTTISH MOHAIR rugs, blankets, capes, stoles, beret-and-scarf sets by Glen Cree

SCOTTISH KNITWEAR, partner packs, skirt packs, sock-and-tie sets by Munrospun

PHILIPPINE SHIRTS for men, women and children

BLOUSES and cotton dresses

WOOD & IVORY carvings and other souvenirs

Continue along Taylor's road toward Kingston, and 150 yards past Queen Elizabeth Avenue you will find us. Directly opposite Nimpex.

Phone 2181

PLEASE

THERE AREN'T MANY signs saying "Don't..." on Norfolk Island.

And there are even fewer policemen.

But it will make you even more welcome if you bear in mind a few points:

- When the weather has been dry for a long time, please drive s-l-o-w-l-y down dirt roads. Even at 20 mph you can throw up a thick trail of dust. That may not worry you, but what it does to clean washing, hanging on a line behind a hedge, is heartbreaking to a housewife.
- If you are a spearfisherman, find a boat to take you out past the reef. Spearguns aren't allowed inside the reef.
- When the weather is wet, please believe signs saying "Road Impassable When Wet". If you drive ahead, you'll rip up the road surface for the future, and may well have a long, muddy walk to get someone to tow you out.

CHURCHES

CATHOLIC

Father Des Scanlon is ill, on the mainland, as we go to press; no services until his return.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

All Saints (Kingston) 10.30am Sundays (Communion 1st Sun. in month) St. Barnabas Chapel evening prayer service 7.30pm Sun. Sunday school (Pitcairn Hall) 9.15am. Rev. Colin Berriman.

METHODIST

Sunday school 10am; services at 11am and 7.30pm. Pitcairn praise service last Sunday of month.

Pastor Eric Dronfield.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

Sabbath school 9.45am Sat., service at 11.15am. Pastor Laurie Gilmore.

The Norfolk Island

SUN	MON	TUE	WED
	1 R6.09/S6.51 ● Housie(LC)/Film(Nlk) Sm'b'd(SP)/Yoga(7.30P-S) CitizensAssn(7.45P-PH) 1943: Selina Buffett, last of the original Pitcairn settlers, died at 87.	**2** R6.10/S6.50 Com'd'nts Dinner(7.30-G) Films(PH & LC) Darts(RSL) 1788: Lt. King & Lt. Ball first land at Duncombe Bay.	**3** R6.11/S6.49 Council meeting(2P-A) School sailing(1P-EB) Film, sm'b'd(VV) Film(PH) Open
7 R6.13/S6.44 Church services Film, sm'b'd(7.30P-VV) 1831: 87 Pitcairners migrate to Tahiti.	**8** R6.14/S6.43 House(LC)/Yoga(7.30-S) Sm'b'd(SP)/Film(Nlk) PUBLIC HOLIDAY (in lieu of Saturday Mar. 6-Foundation Day)	**9** R6.15/S6.42 ◐ Com'd'nts dinner(7.30-G) Films(Pds&LC)/CofE vestry meeting(8P-PH) 1788: "Supply" departs for Sydney.	**10** R6.15/S6.41 School sailing(1P-EB) Film, sm'b'd(7.30-VV) Film(pds)/Open night(Nlk) 1805: Sydney Gazette reports "Vaccination has fully succeeded" at N.I.
14 R6.18/S6.36 Church services Film, sm'b'd(7.30-VV) 1852: Bishop Wilson conducts church - 217 in chains, 53 not chained.	**15** R6.18/S6.35 Housie(LC)/Yoga (7.30P-S) Sm'b'd(SP)/Film(Nlk)	**16** R6.19/S6.34 ○ Com'd'nts dinner(7.30P-G) Films(Pds&LC)/Darts(8P-RSL)	**17** R6.19/S6.33 Womens bowls trophy day School sailing(1P-EB) Film, sm'b'd(7.30P-VV) Film(Pds)/Open night(Nlk) 1788: Lt. King collects flax and puts it to soak.
21 R6.22/S6.28 Church services Film, sm'b'd(7.30P-VV)	**22** R6.22/S6.27 ◑ Housie(LC)/Yoga(7.30P-S) Sm'b'd(SP)/Film(Nlk) 1861: Sir John Young becomes Governor of Norfolk Island.	**23** R6.23/S6.25 Com'd'nts dinner(7.30P-G) Films(Pds&LC)/Darts (8P-RSL)	**24** R6.23/S6.24 Meth'd'st freindship club(8P School sailing(1P-EB) Film, sm'b'd(7.30P-VV) Film(Pds)/Open night(Nlk) 1790: Maj. Ross becomes Commandant.
28 R6.26/S6.19 Church services Pitcairn Praise service (7.30P-MC) Film, sm'b'd(7.30P-VV) 1828: Census shows 135 convicts on N.I.	**29** R6.27/S6.18 Housie(LC)/Yoga(7.30-S) Sm'b'd(SP)/Film(Nlk) 1829: John Adams, last of the Bounty mutineers, dies on Pitcairn.	**30** R6.28/S6.17 ● Com'd'nts dinner(7.30P-G) Films(Pds&LC)/Darts(8P-RSL) 1914: King Georve V places N.I. under Commonwealth.	**31** R6.28/S6.15 School sailing(1P-EB) Film, sm'b'd(7.30P-VV) Film(Pds)/Open night(Nlk) 1960: "Local Government" Act proclaimed -- never put into effect.

CALENDAR March 1976

THU

4 R6.12/S6.48

Island dinner(BH)/Housie(LC)
BBQ(SP)/Film(8P-RSL)
Rotary(6.30P-SP)/Wives & mothers dinner(7.30LC)

1834: Sydney Gazette says Norfolk settlement is "a disgrace to Christian government".

11 R6.16/S6.39

Island dinner(BH)/BBQ(SP)
Film(8P-RSL)/Rotary(6.30P-SP)

1843: Gov. Gipps arrives --first Governor to visit N.I.

18 R6.20/S6.32

Island dinner(BH)/P&C An. Gen. Mtg.(8P-S)/CWA(2.30P-BC)/BBQ(SP)/Film(8P-RSL)
Rotary(6.30-SP)

25 R6.24/S6.23

Island dinner(BH)/BBQ(SP)
Film(8P-RSL)/Rotary(6.30P-SP)

FRI

5 R6.12//S6.47

Meth'd'st ladies aid(3P-MC)
Womens world prayer day (8P-StB)/Film(8P-RSL)
Open night(Pds)

12 R6.17/S6.38

Paddys mkt(9a-PH)/Open night(pds)/Film(8(-RSL)

19 R6.21/S6.30

Open night(Pds)
Film(8P-RSL)

1790: "Sirius" wrecked on reef.
1897: Order-in-Council gives N.I. government to N.S.W.

26 R6.25/S6.22

Meth'd'st street stall(9a-BP)
Paddys Mkt(9a-PH)
Open night(Pds)/Film(8P-RSL)

1790: Maj. Ross proclaims theft from the store is a capital crime.

SAT

6 R6.13/S6.45

SDA service/Gun club shoot(1P-SW)/Open night (Nlk)/Housie(8P-RSL)

1788: King's party of 18 men and 6 women land at "Sidney Bay".

13 R6.17/S6.37

SDA service/Meth'd'st Sun school picnic(11a)/Open night(Nlk)/Housie(8P-RSL)

1790: "Sirius" and "Supply" arrive with 277 convicts and marines.

20 R6.21/S6.29

SDA service
Open night(Nlk)/Housie(8P-RSL)

27 R6.26/S6.20

SDA service/Open night(Nlk)
Housie(8P-RSL)

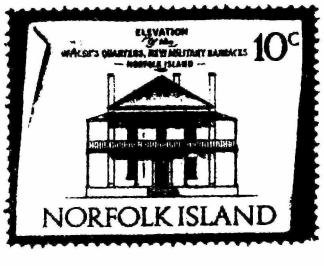
1896: Islanders ask Queen Victoria not to annex N.I. to N.S.W.

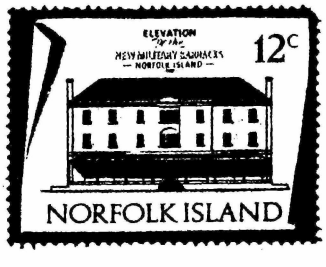
key

H	- High tide
L	- Low tide
R	- Sunrise
S	- Sunset
P	- PM
a	- AM

LOCATIONS

A	- Administration Building
BP	- Burnt Pine
BC	- Bowling Club
BCP	- BiCentennial Park
BH	- Branka House
C	- Catholic Church
CE	- All Saints
EB	- Emily Bay
G	- Garrison Rest.
GC	- Golf Club
H	- Hospital
KO	- Kingston Oval
L	- Library
LC	- Leagues Club
LK	- Lime Kiln BBQ
M	- Museum Building
MC	- Methodist Church
Nlk	- Norfolk Hotel
Pds	- Paradise
PH	- Pitcairners Hall
RH	- Rawson Hall
RSL	- R.S.L. Club
Scl	- N.I. School
SDA	- 7th Day Adv. Hall
SP	- South Pacific
StB	- St. Barnabas Chapel
SW	- Simons Water
VV	- Valley View
YC	- Youth Centre





NORFOLK RADIO

weekdays transmission starts 7 am
Radio Australia News at 7.30, 8.30, 1pm, 2pm, 3.30pm
Local notices/weather at 7.40, 8.40, 10.00, noon, 1.10pm

VISITORS planning to buy a radio should buy it early and listen to our unique local station, VL2NI, at 1570 on the dial. If you want news about Australia or NZ you won't get much from the Radio Australia relay, which is mainly a diplomatic house organ. Toward dark on most days you can begin getting quite good reception of mainland radio stations -- face the radio toward the station for best results.

VL2NI ANNOUNCERS include Toon Buffett, Daphne Heyman, Beryl Lackey, Kathy LeCren, Ivan Milton, Sylvia Ryves, George Smith and Paul Towers. Ring 2137 (not while the announcer is talking, please) for requests.

SUNDAY
Transmission commences
4.00 Light Music
5.30 Radio Aust. News
6.00 Comedy
6.30 Music & Story for Young People
7.00 Evening Prog. includes Children's Story, Feature, Drama, Classical Music
CLOSE - 10pm

MONDAY
9.15 Music Roundabout
10.05 Beach Boys Story
10.45 Morning Serial
11.00 Concert Half Hour
11.30 Concert Performer Talks with John Amis
12.05 Light Drama Series
CLOSE - 4pm

TUESDAY
9.15 Comedy Half Hour
10.05 Music from Shows
10.45 Morning Serial
11.15 Dramas of DiduMaurier
12.05 BBC Sports Mag.
1.15 Methodist Prog.
CLOSE - 4pm

WEDNESDAY
9.15 ABC Scope
10.05 Comedy
10.45 Morning Serial Hospital Prog.
12.05 World Affairs Prog.
2.00 (First Wed. of month only) N.I. Council Meeting.
6.00 pm Evening Prog.
Pick of the week.
Includes Comedy, Drama, Book Review, 'Scope'.

THURSDAY
9.15 Magazine of the Arts
10.05 Drama Series
10.45 Morning Serial
11.00 Requests
1.15 S.D.A. Programme
CLOSE - 4pm

FRIDAY
9.15 Music Feature
10.05 Down Memory Lane
10.45 Morning Serial
11.00 Concert Half Hour
12.05 Book Reviews
1.15 Church of England Prog.
CLOSE - 4pm

SATURDAY
Transmission commences
10.00 Mainly Pop
11.00 Pop Feature Prog.
12.00 & 12.40 Local News
12.05 Requests

MARCH FLIGHTS

	QANTAS		AIR N.Z.		N.I. AIRLINES	
	From Syd.	To Syd.	From Akl.	To Akl.	From Bne.	To Bne.
M 1	-	-	10.30	11.45	-	8.30
T 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
W 3	1.35	2.35	10.30	11.45	2.30*	-
Th 4	-	-	-	-	5.15	8.30*
F 5	1.35	2.35	10.30	11.45	-	-
S 6	1.35	2.35	10.30	11.45	5.30*	8.30
S 7	4.20	5.20	10.30	11.45	5.15	8.30*
M 8	-	-	10.30	11.45	-	8.30
T 9	-	-	-	-	-	-
W 10	1.35	2.35	10.30	11.45	2.30*	-
T 11	-	-	-	-	5.15	8.30*
F 12	1.35	2.35	10.30	11.45	-	-
S 13	1.35	2.35	10.30	11.45	5.30*	8.30
S 14	4.20	5.20	10.30	11.45	5.15	8.30*
M 15	-	-	10.30	11.45	-	8.30
T 16	-	-	-	-	-	-
W 17	1.35	2.35	10.30	11.45	2.30*	-
T 18	-	-	-	-	5.15	8.30*
F 19	1.35	2.35	10.30	11.45	-	-
S 20	1.35	2.35	10.30	11.45	5.30*	8.30
S 21	4.20	5.20	10.30	11.45	5.15	8.30*
M 22	-	-	10.30	11.45	-	8.30
T 23	-	-	-	-	-	-
W 24	1.35	2.35	10.30	11.45	2.30*	-
T 25	-	-	-	-	5.15	8.30*
F 26	1.35	2.35	10.30	11.45	-	-
S 27	1.35	2.35	10.30	11.45	5.30*	8.30
S 28	4.20	5.20	-	-	5.15	8.30*
M 29	-	-	10.30	11.45	-	8.30
T 30	-	-	-	-	-	-
W 31	1.35	2.35	10.30	11.45	2.30*	-

* calls at Lord Howe

SHIPPING

BECAUSE OF THE LIMITED volume of cargo in and out of Norfolk, shipping services are subject to alteration of dates and voyage routes. Schedules shown here are approximate.

COMPAGNIE DE CHARGEURS CALEDONIENS operates a four-weekly cargo service from Onehunga, N.Z. and a four-weekly service from Sydney. The Company is also able to bring cargo from Lord Howe Island on its way from Sydney. Passenger berths are sometimes available; generally Norfolk Island residents are given priority for them.

CCC's Norfolk agents are South Pacific Shipping Co. (tel. 2018 or 2131). In Sydney, Hetherington Kingsbury (tel. 27-1671). In Auckland, Maritime Services Ltd. (tel. 75509).

KARLANDER (AUSTRALIA) PTY. LTD. operates the M.V. Tauloto II on a monthly cargo service from Sydney. The vessel then continues to Suva, Nuku'alofa and back to Sydney. Passenger berths sometimes available but Tongan residents are given priority and usually take them.

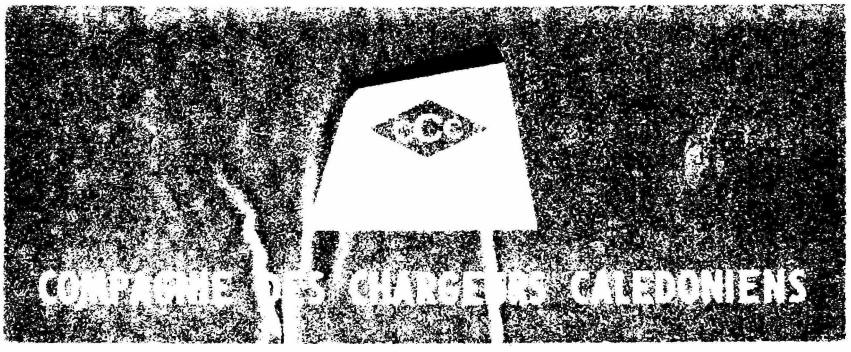
Karlander's agents in Norfolk are Martin's Agencies (tel. 2021). In Sydney, Karlander's office is at 19 Pitt Street (tel. 27-6301).

SOFRANE-UNILINES Groupement D'-Interet Economique operates a four-weekly cargo service, currently with the M.V. Oriental Surveyor, from Auckland and Tauronga, N.Z. The vessel continues from Norfolk to other islands, usually including New Caledonia and the New Hebrides.

Sofrane's agents in Norfolk are Norfolk Transport Services (tel. 2181). In N.Z. the company has its own office at 42 Customs Street (tel. 73279).

MacDONALD HAMILTON LTD. operates an inter-island tanker under charter to Mobil Oil, bringing bulk petroleum products to Norfolk from Suva and Noumea every six or seven weeks. No passenger or cargo accommodation. Norfolk agents are Martin's Agencies.

CURRENT CARGO RATES from Australia are $65.50 per cubic metre or $65.50 per tonne for general cargo, and $80.20 per cubic metre for refrigerated cargo-- these rates plus a 6.5% bunker surcharge. From New Zealand general cargo rate is $NZ55.56 per cubic metre and refrigerated cargo is $NZ74.72 per metre.



Building a better Norfolk shipping service

OUR SIX-POINT PROGRAM FOR SERVING NORFOLK BEST --

1 WE HAVE SHIPS OF THE RIGHT SIZE, EQUIPPED WITH CARGO-HANDLING GEAR SUITED TO NORFOLK LIGHTERAGE REQUIREMENTS

2 OUR CREWS REALLY CARE ABOUT THE CONDITION OF YOUR SHIPMENT. THEY LIKE TO SEE IT COME ABOARD IN GOOD ORDER, AND THEY LIKE TO SEE IT LEAVE THE SHIP IN GOOD ORDER.

3 IT IS CCC COMPANY POLICY TO MAKE A CONTINUOUS EFFORT TO DOVETAIL THE COMPLICATED PACIFIC SHIPPING SITUATION IN A WAY THAT WILL BRING SHIPS REGULARLY AND FREQUENTLY TO NORFOLK.

4 OUR AGENTS ARE INSTRUCTED TO GIVE REALISTIC INFORMATION ON LOADING, SAILING AND ARRIVAL DATES -- AND OUR SYSTEM OF FREQUENT INTERNATIONAL PHONE COMMUNICATIONS HELPS ASSURE THIS INFORMATION IS KEPT CURRENT.

5 IT IS CCC POLICY TO GIVE SERIOUS, PROMPT ATTENTION TO QUERIES, CLAIMS AND REQUESTS.

6 AN INTERNATIONAL TEAM OF FOUR MEN IS AT YOUR SERVICE TO PROVIDE EVERY ASSISTANCE: JOHN BREKKMAN IN SYDNEY (AT HETHERINGTON KINGSBURY - PHONE 27 1671); TONY BOYLE IN AUCKLAND (AT MARITIME SERVICES - PHONE 75509); and GEOFF BENNETT (2018) AND KEN NOBBS (2131) IN NORFOLK.

You can help build better service by -

1 MAKING CCC YOUR BASIC SHIPPING SERVICE AND USING US WHEREVER PRACTICAL. MORE VOLUME MEANS MORE RELIABLE SHIPPING SERVICE.

2 TELLING US WHAT YOU WANT. WE'LL TRY OUR BEST TO PROVIDE IT.

CCC's AGENTS IN NORFOLK ISLAND ARE

South Pacific Shipping Company (N.I.) Limited

BOX 51 NORFOLK ISLAND SOUTH PACIFIC 2899 · CABLES 'SHIPPING' NORFOLK ISLAND · TEL. 2018

IN NEW ZEALAND have your supplier ring CCC's agents in Auckland: Maritime Services Ltd. - - Phone 75509

IN AUSTRALIA have your supplier ring CCC's agents in Sydney: Hetherington Kingsbury P/L, Phone 27.1671

PRENTICES

OPP. P.O.

National

RADIOS
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TOASTERS
IRONS
OVEN
FONDUE

TECHNICS Hi-Fi

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TUNER AMPLIFIERS
TAPE DECKS
SPEAKERS

STEREO AMPLIFIERS TO 100W x 2R.M.S.

GUARANTEE: N.Z. FISHER & PYKEL AUST. HACO

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OMEGA
TISSOT

from $12 -$1200

NORITAKE

HAND MADE LEAD CRYSTAL
CUTLERY & DINNER SETS

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PENDANTS

From the EAST

CAR COATS
TABLE LINEN
KIMONOS
KNITWEAR
HAPPY COATS
SHIRTS
HAND CARVED FURNITURE
CAMPHORWOOD CHESTS

APARTMENT TARIFFS OUGHT TO BE HIGHER, BIGGEST TRAVEL AGENT SAYS

a special News Interview with the controversial Aileen Dickson

THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL figure in Norfolk Island's travel industry is Mrs. Aileen Dickson.

She owns and operates "the world's largest travel agency concentrating on Norfolk Island" -- the Norfolk Island Booking Centre, on the first floor at 72 Pitt St., Sydney.

Because her agency books so many Australians into Island accommodation houses, Mrs. Dickson is a force almost every hotel, guest house or apartment operator has to reckon with.

During a recent visit here -- her 12th so far -- she consented to an hour-and-a-half interview with the News.

Here are some of her comments about the Island, the accommodation houses, and the future.

●

Her arrangement with the Tourist Bureau ended in 1966, when she was informed that all Norfolk bookings were to be put through another agency in Sydney. "I think it was just wheels within wheels," she says now. "I don't think anyone on Norfolk Island today was a moving force in my getting axed."

She felt that the Island's accommodation houses might be willing to continue taking bookings from her, and approached them. None of them knocked her back. "I fought for survival," she says, "and I won."

●

She became interested in Norfolk tourism in April, 1965. She was operating a telephone answering service called "Sydney Information Service," and people interested in Norfolk Island frequently would ring it to learn more about the Island -- which they assumed was, like Lord Howe, part of a Sydney electorate.

Robert Nicolson, author of "The Pitcairners", was working with her at the time, and suggested she try to make some regular connection with the Tourist Bureau. She got in touch with Carl Davies, and worked out an arrangement to act as a Sydney telephone service for them at something just over £5 a month.

She had been intrigued by an article in the March 1963 "Walkabout" magazine, and also had good friends -- John and Ann Woodger -- who had been teachers here in 1962.

Two people now in her Sydney staff, Bella Cooper and Joe Adams, happened to have been taught by John Woodger.

Other members of her staff include a book-keeper, Karen, and Pat Lutge, who used to work with the Tourist Bureau here. "We're a good team," Mrs. Dickson says. "There is no boss and slave at our place."

●

When I first came to Norfolk Island I was agreeably surprised. It was like little Eden, really.

I was very fortunate the first day I came in. They had to jettison fuel, at least that's what I understand, and so we had to go around the Island. It was so beautiful and green - it was lovely. It just looked to me like God got a great big knife and cut it, made those big cliffs, and picked it up and put it in the middle of the ocean so people couldn't spoil it -- so people couldn't invade it, and that sort of thing. It was just like it was its own protection, and too far away for anybody to be bothered with for that sort of activity.

Q: When you come to Norfolk on a trip, what are you looking for?

A: I check to see whether there are any rooms or flats to spare. I'm shown around the accommodation houses by each proprietor, and see improvements and so forth that have gone on since I've been here previously, and see that they're keeping up to -- that they're not neglecting places. It gives us an idea of what the clients will get when they get here.

It's an inspection tour. I meet new owners and proprietors. For them I'm a name, and to me they're just a name until I've met them.

Q: Do you try to advise the proprietors on what you think they ought to do?

A: If I am asked for opinions, I give them. If I feel it's necessary and they haven't asked, sometimes I venture an opinion. I have to size up the situation. I don't like treading dangerous ground, but you can't avoid it sometimes.

Q: Have tourists' expectations and preferences been changing in recent years?

A: Well, private facility accommodation, for the Australian tourist, is a must. This is a way of life over there, we have these things. We have a good way of life.

There is a greater demand, a swing toward apartments. It's quite a mixed bag -- so many different reasons.

Q: Do you try to rate the various places?

A: No, I don't. And it doesn't necessarily say that because a particular place is a particular price, that that has anything to do with it. Maybe it's location, or maybe because there's cost value in it, or maybe because people go into a place and things are there that were there too many years ago.

The newer ones are getting a more realistic price, naturally. I'm pleased to see that some of the places that have been built longer are updating. I'm very pleased about that.

Q: Do you think that tariffs are lower than they ought to be?

A: In the flats, yes, there is room for improvement in the tariffs there. I can't see how a dollar a day per person is going to kill off a market when a $50.40 air fare rise doesn't kill off the same person. How could it?

Q: Are there reasons you think the tariffs should be higher, other than that it means a bit more commission for you?

A: No, I don't think of it that way. If I thought of it that way I wouldn't even be selling flats, would I?

I'm interested in selling people what they want, and bringing back a happy tourist to Sydney. I do my best to send them here in a happy frame of mind, and I expect them to come back the same way.

If they want to be in a flat, I'd be rather foolish to try to book them into a hotel or a guest house, wouldn't I?

When those people come back, and they've enjoyed themselves, had a wonderful time, they talk about it. And -- "Where did you book?" --this is good public relations, so far as I'm concerned! to get a happy traveller back, not one that's been fleeced, that that's not what they wanted, but what they had to take -- you know? I'm not saying that anybody does it, but it's quite easy to do, a thousand miles away, and we don't enter into that practice at all.

Q: Then why do you feel tariffs should be higher?

A: Well when one is putting up a package tour, the minimum price must

be not less than 120% of the advertised air fare. And air fares have gone up. If you work it out that the air fare is $207.20 – plus 20% -- you'll find that you possibly couldn't book a tour out for a flat, or many flats, under 14 days. You have got to take the cost of one person in the flat, and they have to have one other thing, other than accommodation and air fares -- a choice of the tours, or .... you can see it in our brochures. So that's how it works. Anything that's marked "Qantas" can't be less than that 120% of the advertised air fare.

Q: So you need the cost to be 120% of the air fare, in order to be able to get a discount on the air fare yourself?

A: No, there is no discount on the air fare. But other agents, I.A.T.A. agents, can book through us, and they can get 10% on the air fare, and I charge them 10% on the land content. If it's not a tour, they get only 8%.

Q: So that encourages other agents to book through you, and that's the sense of it?

A: Yes.

"I'm pretty shrewd..."

Q: Do you see problems ahead for Norfolk tourism?

A: No problems whatsoever. I personally see no problems on the horizon. I'm pretty shrewd, and if I saw any problems, believe me I'd be diversifying. I intend still to specialise. I like what I'm doing, I like Norfolk Island, I like the people here, the way of life, which I hope will continue for a long time. It's so unspoiled. Even the little commercial centre doesn't seem to spoil the rest of the Island. Norfolk Island is a most desirable destination.

Q: Professor Butland, who made a long-term study of the Island's population, says the greatest threat facing Norfolk is too many tourists. Would you agree?

A: I agree.

Q: Do you think Norfolk is getting close to a level of too many tourists?

A: I would say there's room for two moderately-sized hotels, as a necessity. I don't know facts and figures on what's economical for a hotel. We don't need storeyed buildings, I don't think – it takes away from the silhouette of the pine trees and what else is around.

We need a hotel down at Kingston. That's a sore point. We need it. To take tourism away from there is quite unthinkable, National Trust or not. Those things were established before the National Trust came along.

"Why was it allowed to happen?..."

I don't want to speak against them, but I still think the people of today and tomorrow should not be penalised from enjoying that area -- not by driving down in a motor car or a bus and seeing it for a couple of hours, but being able to enjoy it 24 hours in the day if they so desire. It seems that there is not going to be a hotel there for too many years, I'm extremely sorry.

Q: But it seems definitely decided.

A: I can't believe this thing could happen on this Island. Why? Why was it allowed to happen? I can't believe it's finished. It's cut and dried, but I don't believe that it's finished. I believe that we can all try just that little harder if we want to.

It was an open and shut case right from the beginning that I "could never write Qantas tickets", because I wouldn't go in I.A.T.A. I'm the only person in the world that writes Qantas tickets without (being in I.A.T.A.). It had never been done before. I tried hard enough, and I got it.

Q: Ideally, what class of accommodation do you think Norfolk tourists would like to have?

A: One cannot offer what the world thinks of as first-class accommodation. We can give them good accommodation, very good accommodation -- but don't start classing. Don't start putting stars on what or not, because everyone's taste is different, and so long as they have a spacious bedroom -- nobody likes a small bedroom -- cleanliness, quality floor coverings, drapes, a comfortable chair in the room, bath facilities, and the usual things that go along with what is known as a modern-day hotel -- I don't really think there is much call for so-called Executive Accommodation, here, because we haven't the service to go along with it, like room service -- we haven't the people here to accommodate people who want room service and one thing and another, just ringing the bell and "I want room service, I want drinks brought up to my room" and all this sort of thing. I think that is possibly what people believe when you say "first class" accommodation. I don't think they're looking for that when they come to Norfolk Island at all. They know it's an island, and they know they're not going to Hawaii, and people who come here do not want to see this turned into a Hawaii. I don't believe for another ten or twenty years this Island would be prepared to attract the "jet set".

It's not status people are after when they come here. Such people have been here one day and they say "My deah, theah's nothing heah at all." No wonder they say that. They simply didn't take the time.

I'm concerned about the air service to Norfolk Island. I honestly believe we'll have Qantas with us for a long time. I also believe we can't have a better airline into this Island.

I don't know anything about differend kinds of aircraft at all, but I feel sure we should have no more than a maximum of 90 passengers -- the very maximum. We haven't the facilities at the airport to channel through in excess of that, if that. There aren't enough buses and taxis. And the more buses and taxis you put on, the more pine trees you are going to lose because of pollution.

"...that wonderful DC-4 trip..."

I will hate to see the DC-4s go. I don't believe I've lost one passenger because of the five hour flight. It's printed in our brochure, and we make certain people understand it. But we have had so many hundreds of people over the years come back and say "what a wonderful trip that Qantas trip is, in the old DC-4."

Of course you can have a bumpy flight. That can happen anywhere in the world. When people come back and say what a rough flight they had, I tell them I'm sorry, and I'm sure Qantas is sorry, and I'm sure the Man upstairs is sorry too.

Since the flying boat to Lord Howe has gone, you'd be surprised how many people want to take the Qantas flight. It's a thing now. When it was said the DC-4 would be ending, a lot of people booked to come here so they could have another flight before it's taken off.

Q: How do you get on with the Tourist Board these days?

A: If there were any hatchet, mine would have been buried years ago. Often, in this world, as one door closes, another one opens.

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FOR THE INFORMATION OF TOURISTS

CASUAL GUEST POLICY

South Pacific
hotel/motel limited

VISITORS TO NORFOLK are sometimes uncertain about the casual-guest policies of the Island's leading hotel.

The brief answer is that you're most welcome, regardless of where you may be staying.

Luncheon at the South Pacific is always pleasant. When the weather is fine you may be served at a table beside the swimming pool. If you prefer, you may sit in the glass-walled indoor Barbecue Room overlooking the pool and a backdrop of Norfolk Island Pines.

The luncheon menu always includes one inexpensive dish, usually $1 or $1.50, and a beautiful array of hot and cold dishes.

Five Nights a Week there is special entertainment: MONDAY a smorgasbord and dance; TUESDAY Housie; THURSDAY a barbecue and dance; SATURDAY a candlelight dinner (with a fine steak main course only $5.25); and SUNDAY dinner and a film.

Our four chefs have studied on four continents and present the best in imported and local foods, artfully prepared, and served by the attractive girls in the bright cerise-coloured uniforms.

Two requests, please: make bookings before 4.30 to assure a table, and arrange to arrive before 8.00.

COME AND ENJOY The South Pacific early in your visit ... you'll want to return.

The Way Norfolk Used To Be

ONE OF A SERIES FROM THE SKETCHBOOK OF BAKER McCOY

A NORFOLK WHALE BOAT UNDER SAIL

MARCH SHOULD BE a month of Canberra decisions affecting Norfolk finances. Two cut-backs have already been ordered. One is a $40, 000 cut in the budget for Kingston restoration work over the next four months, which made it necessary to lay off nine members of the carefully-built-up Restoration Team. Acting Administrator C.I. Buffett is trying to get this cut-back restored. The other Canberra order was that Admin staff numbers be frozen at present levels, with no new permanent positions to be filled for the time being.

The Department of Administrative Services told the News last week that no decisions have yet been made about other Norfolk costs. But they are being discussed because of the new Australian Government's economy drive, and it is expected decisions will be made this month, probably after the Minister has had a look at the Island himself during his visit set for mid-month.

Major Norfolk spending plans include the annual $120, 000 grant, the upgrading of the Norfolk airport to handle more modern aircraft, the continuation of Sir John Nimmo's Royal Commission (one unconfirmed report says he has been told to stop gathering information and get his recommendations written), and the continuing costs of supporting services such as the drafting of new Ordinances by the Attorney General's Department.

WORK-INSTEAD-OF-SCHOOL on Fridays is proving a good idea so far. Island employers have co-operated extremely well by making Friday jobs available. The Fourth-Formers in the program all seem to like it. There have been no complaints, and a number of compliments, about the youngsters' performance in the first four weeks.

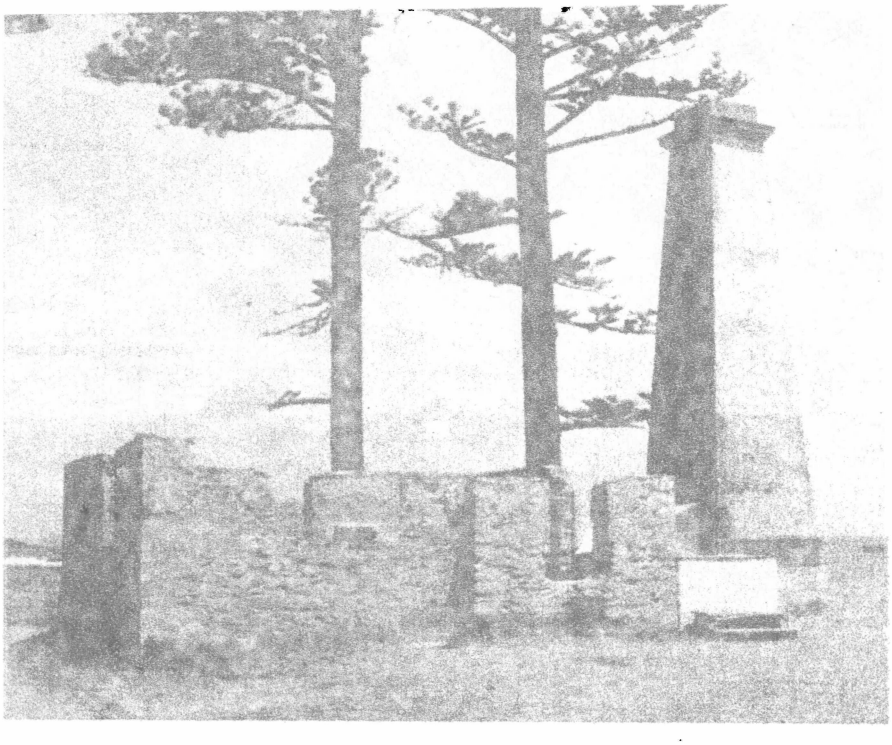
Chris Hughes, the teacher in charge of the program, says the boys are working with builders, with an electrician, in forestry, at a garage, helping deliver fuel and re-fuel planes, doing storeman work, helping a hire-car operator, learning at the Transport Dept. shops, making concrete bricks, manning a timber mill, and helping restore Government House.

The girls are in hairdressing, dressmaking, accounting, a law office, a printery, the Admin, the library, and one of the banks.

●

A TEMPORARY LULL in tourist traffic actually resulted in there being vacant parking spaces in Burnt Pine for a couple of weeks in February. "How's business? It just went over a precipice," said one hire-car operator. "People know what's a bargain," said one shopkeeper, "and when you price things right you can sell out in a couple of weeks." Advance accommodation bookings are good for March.

THE SALT HOUSE -- WOULD IT MAKE A GOOD KIOSK?



A BEAUTIFICATION program approved by Council in February may not be entirely smooth going. New planting and in some cases grading will help improve Wordsworth Park, Point Hunter, Collins Head Rd. and the airport area -- the latter with aid from the Girl Guides.

Getting a fence up to screen the Stockyard Rd. crushing plant may not be quite so easy, because Council expects Island Industries to pay for it.

Excluding stock from Burnt Pine is even tougher. Some people may well agree with Roy Smith, who argued that cows in the shopping centre were an unusual tourist attraction, and good lawn mowers. But to exclude them Council will have to build cattle stops across Taylor's Rd. (we only have a gate at the News but shop-owners mightn't think it would work for Taylor's Rd.) It would also be necessary to devise an alternate cattle route by-passing Burnt Pine.

Fencing off a picnic park at the watermill may not be just difficult; it may be impossible. The Common is established by fundamental laws, and carving even a little bit of it out is just not on, without something like a special sitting of the House of Lords.

Lastly, the Salt House. Council voted it should be fixed up as a refreshments kiosk for the beach area. But the Salt House belongs to Australia, and by the time the National Trust and the Inter-Departmental Committee on Restoration get through chewing on the idea, it will be a thirsty day at Emily Bay.

●

THE LEAK in Watermill Valley dam has been fixed at last, and the dam is once again a pleasant sight. Works Department men found the break deep in the dam's foundations, went at it with fingers crossed, and seem to have been spot-on in their approach to repairing it.

●

NORFOLK ISLAND AIRLINES had a closed-session meeting with Council in February, at which financial advisor Graham Hitchins and founder Charlie Herman spread out their plans for how the airline would handle the Australia-Norfolk run with F-28 jets. NIA has since formally asked Council for a vote of support for the airline's plans. Along with TAA, Ansett and East-West, NIA has been asked by the Royal

Commission to put in a clear proposal for handling the run. Council support would be a valuable plus in NIA's submission.

●

THERE IS SOME PRETTY RUGGED reading in the transcripts now available from the Supreme Court sittings in December. Mr. Justice Joske awarded $1750 damages to a resident who claimed she had not been fairly treated in a trade of land. The Judge said she "....was a credible witness and I have no difficulty in accepting her evidence. I found (the witness for the defendant company) entirely unreliable and am quite satisfied that he departed from the truth whenever he considered it suitable to do so...In addition to arranging the survey (the defendant's witness) not only saw to it that the plaintiff received approximately half of what she bargained to get, but he also saw to it that it was the poorest part of the defendant's land going down to the creek bed, and this although the defendant was getting choice land from plaintiff..."

●

TO HELP WITH the Medical Officer's heavy workload, the Administrator has used his authority under the Public Service Ordinance to authorise temporary extra staff. He approved the Hospital Board's selecting an assistant medical officer to work up to 20 hours a week for the next three months. They have employed Dr. Jennifer Sexton, wife of the Medical Officer, who had not been practicing here.

●

JOHN NEWTON has come back to Norfolk to act as Legal Adviser until the position can be permanently filled. David Rumpit filled the post intelligently for eight months but resigned suddenly for personal reasons. The position has been advertised in the Commonwealth Gazette. The Institute of Criminology in Canberra, where John had taken a long-term position, has reportedly been closed down. His ready-made knowledge of the Island will be invaluable to the Admin and Council as vital new laws on zoning, immigration and other matters are shaped.

●

SYLVIA RYVES has retired as Broadcasting Officer from March 17th. She and Steve will be able to concentrate on their Island Pottery (see story in "Living", this issue) which is expanding but barely able to cope with demand. Administrative Officer David Buffett says Sylvia's successor was selected through good, standard organisational practice - surveying the existing staff to see if one or more was qualified. From March 18th the honey-voiced Kathy LeCren will be the new Officer.

●

THE ISLAND'S NIGHT LIFE sustained a loss when Rick Swansborough's "Neptune's Cavern", which operated briefly as a bring-your-own restaurant-aquarium, was ordered to shut down. Rick did a roaring trade for a few weeks with Australian folksinger Alex Hood providing live entertainment along with a $4 steak or fish dinner. But Rick was only licensed to have a snack bar, and there is a limit of four licensed restaurants on the Island. Rick's temporary entry permit also called for him to be operating the aquarium. It shut when the Cavern shut, and the Admin has followed the immigration ordinance to the letter by telling Rick he's no longer authorised to stay.

●

THE COUNCIL CHAMBER is gradually being re-furbished after the terrible storm damage of a year ago. There are still some details, like ceiling coving, unfinished. Loyal subjects will be happy to know that the latest step has been replacing the portrait of the Royal Couple, and the Canberra coat-of-arms. But this time Their Majesties are on top, instead of having the City of Canberra crest up above them.

MANY READERS HAVE MADE DOUBLE USE OF THE NEWS BY READING IT FIRST AND THEN SENDING IT ALONG TO FRIENDS OVERSEAS --OFTEN WRITING A NOTE IN THE PANEL WE USED TO PROVIDE ON THE BACK OF THE WEEKLY PAPER. YOU CAN WRITE YOUR OWN VERSION OF 'NORFOLK DIARY' HERE IF YOU LIKE.

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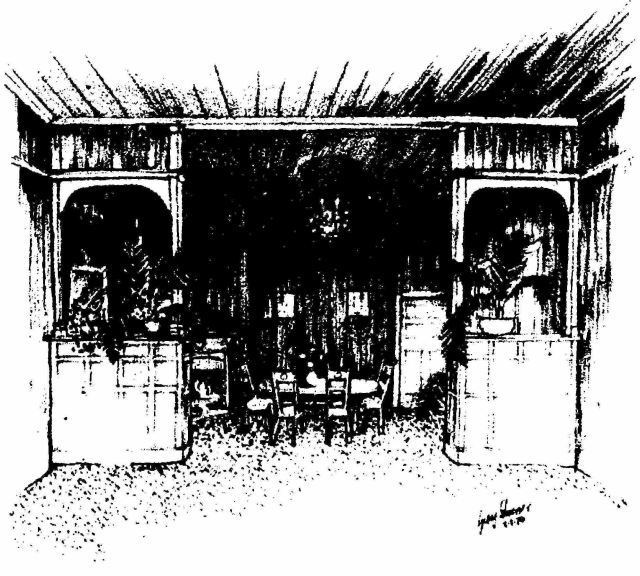

MARIA BAILEY MARRIED
DICK HEAPS IN 1907
AND ON RETIRING HE BUILT
THE ISLAND HOME OF HILLCREST
FROM TIMBERS BOUGHT FROM
THE MELANESIAN CHAPEL
AND CONVICT-HEWN STONES
FROM THE RUINS AT KINGSTON.

WHAT BETTER PLACE TO RELAX
OVER A PRE-DINNER DRINK
AND ENJOY A MEAL
THAN IN THE OLD DINING ROOM
DISCREETLY LIT BY CHANDELIERS.

Bar opens for pre-dinner
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Reservations - ring 2255

MARIA HEAPS' Restaurant

At the Hillcrest Hotel-Motel; 24 motel units in beautiful gardens overlooking Phillip Island. Brochure available - Box 64

Norfolk LIVING

SYLVIA AND STEVE Ryves' life on Norfolk must be about as idyllic a way to live as is possible anywhere in the world.

Their charming, spacious A-frame Norfolk pine home, their studio where they work with their clay and display it (much to the pleasure of visitors and locals), their kilns and Sylvia's private studio with a tremendous skylight are all within a stone's throw of one another and all mingled among honeysuckle, citrus trees, sugar cane, buffalo grass, a thriving vegetable garden and newly planted cocoanut palms. This enterprising husband and wife team do a great deal to enhance Norfolk both for local residents and tourists.

In addition to making pots Sylvia works a 40 hour week planning, supervising and announcing on Norfolk's own radio station, VL2 NI, and Steve

Steve moved here with his parents John and June Ryves 11 years ago. Sylvia, out from England on a working holiday, 6 years ago, met him, married him and didn't leave Norfolk. They have since been back to England together to do a "Pottery Crawl" as Sylvia puts it. They zig-zagged England from the South to the North up to Scotland looking at potteries, unusual clays and glazes.

Two of the fascinating potteries they visited were Bernard Leach's in St. Ives, England where there is a huge oil burner kiln and Michael Cardew's pottery. Cardew supervised the building of a famous kiln at Abuja in Northern Nigeria which is similar to the one Steve and Sylvia saw in England.

These knowledgeable potters use a mixture of Norfolk clay from Ball Bay and a stoneware clay from England. Norfolk's clay melts at about 1100C so for higher firing stoneware and additives help. Steve is experimenting with different additives, silica and firing techniques and has just about finished a huge new kiln, diesel-fired which will hold up to 500 pots at one time. The lovely work that these two potters do make wonderful souvenirs of this good island.

Steve says Norfolk's clay is unusual. It is fine for low firing but tends to go steely when too hot. Hence mixing it with stoneware, silica and other additives increases its heat tolerance.

Sylvia is experimenting with glazes -- pine, guava, bouganvillea, avocado, oleander, oak and mixtures of ashes. They find adding ash glaze tremendously exciting. There are so many possibilities. The Ryves use no lead glazes at all so rest assured anything you purchase will be safe to eat or drink from.

Particularly exciting is the potential of lower-fired pottery which enables them to get bright oranges and reds. Eventually, they will be doing earthen-

MARCH
MONTHLY
SALE

STARTS 8th MARCH

AFTER STOCKTAKING
CLEARANCE

ALL DEPARTMENTS

Burns Philp

STEVE AND SYLVIA RYVES AND THEIR NEW KILN, JUST BEING COMPLETED AT ANSON BAY. IT IS EIGHT TIMES THE SIZE OF THEIR PREVIOUS ONE.

ware dishes for dinner sets when their new kiln is in operation. We have recently seen some beautiful hearth tiles they have made for a fireplace in a rustic hilltop retreat and they are beautiful.

"Experimentation, once you know the techniques of potting, is the best way to go on learning," says Steve.

Both of these talented young people love living on Norfolk. They find the people here "so accepting of everyone", says Sylvia.

To find the pottery go out to Anson Bay and keep on that road until you come to the end. Then turn left until you see a sign saying "Island Pottery" which is on the left hand side. Their open hours are Mon. Wed. Fri. afternoons from 2 to 5.

questions&answers in a Norfolk Garden

TIME TO THINK about seeds and cuttings once again, if we want an early garden this winter or perhaps we should say spring and early summer, depending on the kind of winter weather we have in store for us, especially as the garden minded used to this unknown factor need be like the Scouts and be prepared.

The following flower seeds may all be sown - stocks, pansies, violas, nemessia, snap dragons and of course most marigolds, the latter a little later perhaps. If you have a sunny position for winter flowering sweetpeas, they also can be started, in jiffy pots and set out later is quite a good idea, and in the meantime prepare site for them by deep digging trench and manuring with (for preference) old animal manure, compost or a little blood and bone. If planted directly where they are to be, sweet peas will appear to be slow in growth for quite some time but unless they look very unhealthy, don't let this worry you - they will suddenly start to climb and all is well; nature knows best and the little plants will flower accordingly. Remember a gardener is nature's helper only not the "boss".

As seeds are the subject of this month's garden chat, those readers who have not had very much experience of raising their own seeds, I will set out my own way of doing so, found successful over years of gardening here on N.I.

(1) Choose a fairly deep box or flat as gardeners term such a box; I find not less than three inches deep is required. As stated before, we are governed by rain etc. as to setting out seedlings and therefore sometimes have to hold seedlings in a flat for longer than normal; in this case the deeper flat is best as it gives the young plants more root run and allows good growth of fibrous roots.

(2) Put a good layer of dried lawn clippings or old leaves from under trees.

(3) Fill flat to top with a good mixture for seeds, such as 2 parts soil (friable) and 1 coarse sand.

(4) Wet this thoroughly and allow to settle for 2 days, making sure it is draining well.

(5) Plant seeds according to packet instructions.

(6) Do not sow seeds too thickly - better to use two flats, as too many seedlings lead to weak plantlets and damping off.

If you use jiffy pots for seeds, and find they will have to be held a while, set them in a flat filled with sand or a mixture of soil and sand, and they can be then lifted out when ready and the roots which have come through the jiffys are not burnt off or damaged.

Sow following vegetable seeds also in the same manner.

Early cabbage, cauliflower, lettuce and celery. Just plant half the packet of seed and other half a few weeks later - these are generally quite sufficient for most family gardens.

Broad beans should be planted now but of course these are planted direct in the ground. It pays well to give these some support as the wind does not help these beans much.

Another little chore in flower garden; make sure all gladiola corms are lifted, dried then cleaned by removing skins and old corm - store in an open container, old onion sack or stocking. Give a good dusting of Derris Dust or similar before storing.

a little chat with Helen

Peter, Peter, pumpkin eater
Had a wife but could not keep her.

Certainly he could not have kept her in green vegetables on Norfolk right now but she should have had no problem providing his favourite dishes. Here are some things she could do.

ARGENTINIAN PUMPKIN SOUP
'FONDA DEL SOL'

2½ lbs. pumpkin flesh (well drained)
1 3/4 pints chicken stock made of cubes
1 medium onion, chopped

(turn to next page, please)

THE SPINNING WHEEL

elegant norfolk island handcrafts

NORFOLK ISLAND PAINTINGS...WEAVINGS...LOVELY IMPORTED VENETIAN GLASS...AND OTHER BEAUTIFUL THINGS TO HELP YOU RECALL YOUR ISLAND HOLIDAY WITH ADDED PLEASURE

ONE OF THE FIRST SHOPS ON YOUR RIGHT APPROACHING BURNT PINE FROM THE SOUTHEAST

Helen's pumpkin soup "fonda del sol"

(cont'd from page 33)

6 spring onions (if available, if not use 3 medium onions)
5 tomatoes scalded and peeled
½ pint of light cream
Salt and ground black pepper
Whipped cream
½ level tspn salt
½ cup cream or substitute (Carnation milk will do)
2 level tblspns sugar for egg whites

Cut pumpkin in pieces; add stock, onions and spring onions, tomatoes and simmer until tender. Cool. Blend or puree add cream; season to taste with salt and pepper. Pour into pre-chilled cups. Just before serving place a teaspoon of whipped cream on top of each serving. Serves 6.

****

PUMPKIN CHIFFON PIE (Enough for 8 serves)

1 baked pie shell
1 tblspn gelatine
¼ cup cold water
1½ cups steamed mashed pumpkin
1 cup brown sugar
2 eggs, separated
2 level tspns cinnamon
1 level tspn ginger
¼ tspn allspice

Soften gelatine in cold water. Combine pumpkin, brown sugar, egg yolks, spices and salt in top of double boiler. Cook over hot but not boiling water until thickened, stirring well. Add softened gelatine to hot pumpkin mixture and stir until dissolved. Remove from hot water, chill until mixture begins to thicken. Beat egg whites until stiff but not dry then beat in sugar. Fold into cooled pumpkin mixture, add orange rind. Whip chilled cream, fold into pumpkin mixture. Pour into shell and chill. Top with additional cream if desired.

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IN BOND

--a private view of what is offering at the Liquor Bond

by "VINAS"

THIS FEATURE is intended to inform our readers who enjoy, with admirable restraint, the pleasures of augmenting good eating with good drinking to the undoubted enhancement of both. It will not indulge in fancy jargon but aim, quite simply, to assist those who like good living and wish to venture further as well as those who have already done so but wish to keep up to date. The writer is one who, during his mature years, has made this happy pilgrimage and would like, albeit anonomously, to share his experiences.

.....

Never let me be guilty of downgrading Australian wines or becoming snobbish about imports with glamorous names but here on Norfolk we are fortunate to be able to enjoy wines, spirits and liqueurs from other parts of the world at more reasonable prices than our mainland friends.

Recently the liquor bond brought in some South African Paarl wines which are worth attention. Paarl, incidentally, is the place in the Cape Province where the S.A. Wine Growers Co-op has its cellars.

The wines comprise three dry reds, a rose and a sparkling red. The dry reds are all lighter and with a lower tannin than most Australian reds - in other words less astringent than typical Australian claret-style wines. They are:

PINOTAGE: A varietal (particular grape variety) wine made from a South African grape which was hybridised from Pinot Noir and Hermitage (Shiraz) grapes. A very pleasant red when that is what your meal calls for but you don't want anything too robust. Price $2.60.

CABERNET SAUVIGNON: Clearly carries the attributes of this premium grape but in a much lighter style than the ones to which we are accustomed. Price $2.70.

ROODEBURG: The label gives no varietal information but I'd go for a Pinotage-Cabernet blend. Of the three it is closer to Australian style, in fact, if I had not known its origin I would have made a guess at South Australia but commented on its lightness. Price $2.55.

PETTILANT ROSÉ: A good bouquet, delightful colour and good "spritzig" (those tiny bubbles which tittilate one's palate). Served chilled it goes well with lamb, most Asian dishes or a curry. Price $1.85.

MOUSSEAUX ROUGE: In the sparkling burgundy class, its colour lacking clarity. If you go for sweetish "pearl" types you will probably like this one. You certainly could not complain about the price - $2.05. Make sure it is well chilled.

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Letter from Home

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING on the social scene on Norfolk over the past few weeks? In January the weather upset a number of functions. The Wives and Mothers Club Fashion Parade to be held at Branka House had to be cancelled as did their Family Barbecue night. However, the School Tour Fund Committee held a successful fashion and jewellery parade at the South Pacific Hotel on Wednesday, 14th January. The gowns were from Paris Boutique and the jewellery from BJ's. Robert Farrer and a friend of Jack and Lorna Richardson, Mrs. Lola McAlpin, compered the fashion parade and after a short interval Paul Towers explained the "jewels" and their value. Lesley Probett and Barbara Goudie modelled the jewellery. One has often heard the saying "diamonds are a girl's best friend" and all present were able to see and exclaim at how they do gleam and sparkle. The girls modelled necklaces pendants, earrings, rings and brooches made up of a variety of precious stones. All everyone could do was ooh and aah, especially when Paul gave the prices! Some of the pieces were valued at three and four thousand dollars. Wonder what Lesley and Barbara felt like modelling sometimes as much as $10, 000 worth of jewellery at a time? Those who modelled the gowns included Kathy LeCren, Fenella Evans, Timmy Lloyd, Ann Snell, Jean Vincent, Lorna Richardson, Anne Buffett, together with professional model Susie Gashler who had come over from Sydney at the invitation of the Tourist Board to do a series of promotional photographs. The gowns modelled by the girls came from many different parts of the globe - England, Germany, America, including Hawaii. A very pleasant evening followed by a welcome cup of tea. Denise Smith who works at the Sporting Centre was the lucky winner of the Royal Doulton coffee set generously donated by Wyn and Kath Percival. Proceeds from the raffle and the evening amounted to approximately $200 which will go towards sending the 6th class boys and girls on the annual school tour during the May school holidays.

Found out on Saturday 10th January just what an "old fashioned" Fish Fry is. It was held at the Golf Club and meant plenty of beautiful fresh fish deep-fried in a crisp batter, plenty of chips and accompanied by a variety of tasty salads prepared by the Golf Club associates. A delicious meal. No wonder another such evening was held a fortnight later. As one visitor said, "It would be difficult to find such beaut fish and chips on the mainland."

The Prawn Night held at the Leagues Club the following Saturday evening was also very popular. By the look of the plates and the expressions on faces everyone thoroughly enjoyed their prawns and there were certainly plenty for everyone. The tables were then quickly cleared by the busy directors and the Don Reynolds Trio then entertained everyone for the remainder of the evening (which went all too quickly) with their lively dance music.

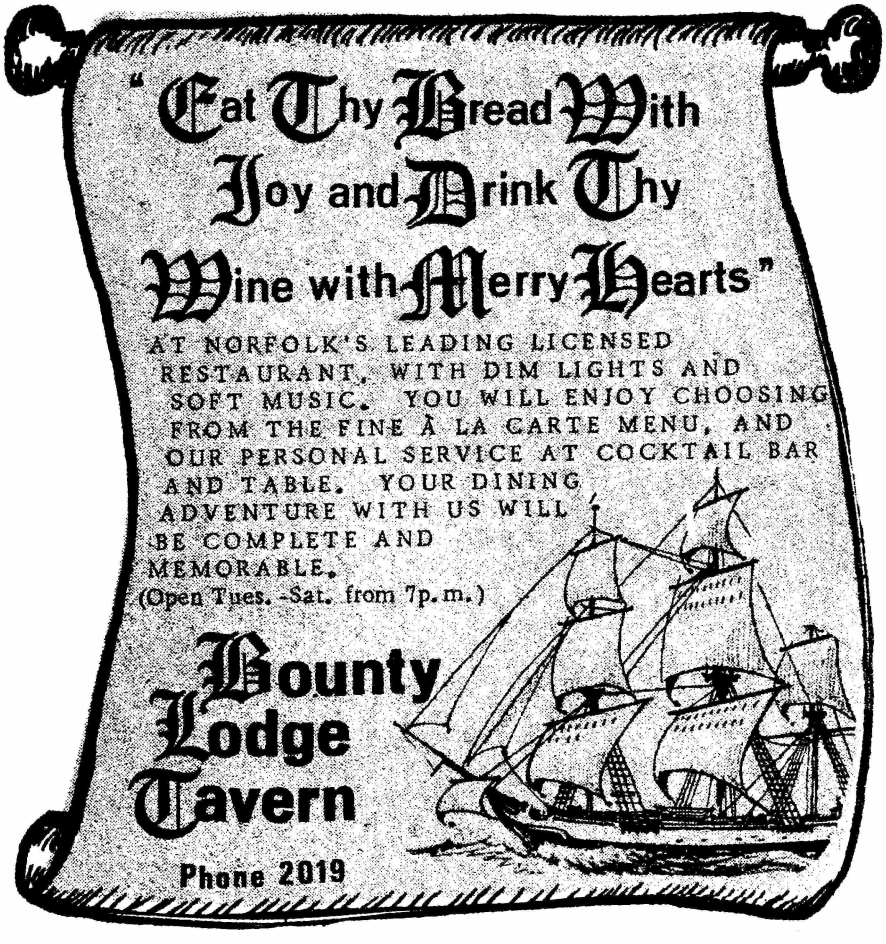
I guess the attention of most households during the week beginning Monday 26th January was focused on the Wednesday 28th January - back to school day. A happy, yet sad day in many ways. It's the real start of the hustle and bustle of another year, isn't it? Mad rushes and dashes at home with mothers frantically cutting lunches, tying shoe laces, finding school bats and tucking hankies into pockets as children make a dash for the door and to the bus stop or to the car where they wait impatiently for "Mum" to round up the youngest.

It's quite a strange feeling taking one's first child to school on that first day, especially after having been so big about it ute they don't want to let go one's hand. Later on that morning I met one of the other mothers whilst shopping. "How are you feeling", she asked. "A bit peculiar", was my reply. "Oh dear at least you still have one at home. I feel so lost, don't know what to do with myself." It was the first day for her youngest. Yes, it's a day of very mixed feelings. One mother was telling me how she had been assured by her children that they weren't looking forward to returning to school the next day. Imagine her surprise and amusement when on tucking one of them into bed that night she discovered he was already fully dressed ready for school, under the covers!

...saying "goodbye" to old friends...

During the past four weeks the Island has said "goodbye" to four families who have had to leave the Island to make their homes elsewhere.

After living on the Island for many years Stan and Cam Gallichan had to return to New Zealand at the end of January so that Cam could be closer to medical treatment. Both Stan and Cam have been active in the sporting community on the bowling green and down on the golf course. Stan was



also a keen supporter of the Leagues Club. Cam conducted a hairdressing salon in their home for many years and Stan was kept busy in his joinery. Jill Karl is now looking after Cam's previous clients.

The directors and members of the Leagues Club farewelled Stan and Cam together with Sue and Les Burke at a function held in the clubrooms on Wednesday evening, 21st January. Les and Sue have lived on the Island for the past four years - Les was a technician with the DCA and has now been transferred with a promotion to Dampier in Western Australia. Football players and followers alike will miss Les's tall frame streaking - whoops, can't use the word "streaking" as its meaning has changed slightly the last twelve months or so - Les's tall frame "flashing" (that's better?) across the field! Many of their friends were at the airport to say a final "goodbye" as they departed last Saturday, 14th February.

Another young couple, with their family, have been forced to leave Norfolk for health reasons. Ruth and Daryl Coleman, together with their two young children were very sorry to have to leave. They have gone to Taree in N.S.W. but hope to return at some stage in the future. Ruth has been a keen and active member in the Wives and Mothers Club and both Ruth and Daryl enjoyed the many times they spent on the bowling green.

What a sad time the past few weeks must have been for Mrs. "Cherie" Cameron who had to decide to place on the market her lovely old home "Leeside" and go to live with her daughter in Sydney. For health reasons it had become inadvisable for Mrs. Cameron to live alone. Mrs. Cameron and her husband first came to live on Norfolk in 1948. Her husband died several years later. Mrs. Cameron has taken an active part in the Musical and Dramatic Society. I remember when we first arrived at the beginning of June '67 my husband was roped into the Tahitian scene of the Pageant of Norfolk produced by Scotty Neagle. Night after night Mrs. Cameron would call the group together teaching the girls the Tahitian dances and songs with the men providing the music on their guitars and ukeleles. We also enjoyed a number of sing-song evenings in her lovely old home. Remember all the exciting goodies one was able to find in the little shop she used to have at the side of her home? With its lovely garden and white picket fence fronting on to Taylors Road in Burnt Pine, "Leeside" will remain as a memento to Mrs. Cameron's contribution to life on Norfolk.

With interest and anticipation a group of us was looking forward to last Saturday evening. We had arranged to have dinner at the new Maria Heap's Restaurant at the Hillcrest Motel. What a pleasant surprise we all received. As we drove up the concrete drive it was as though we were approaching a restaurant in Sydney. A clump of trees was most effectively floodlit in the middle of the drive. Then following a winding path through the trees we reached the front entrance of the restaurant which opened into the pre-dinner drink area. It's really lovely. The original verandah, widened, provides the bar area. Then the two front rooms of the home have both been opened up; actually the front wall of the home has been removed, providing a very spacious area indeed. The original wood panelling on the walls blends beautifully with the new walls of the verandah which have been stained a lighter shade. The timber walls, the glistening chandeliers and the old-style furnishings provide a very warm, welcoming atmosphere. We were particularly taken with the leadlight glass above the bar - most effective. Mudgi Guile, the hostess, greeted us warmly and showed us to our table when all members of the party had arrived. Everyone then enjoyed a delicious meal, tastefully prepared and presented by the chef, Mudgi's husband, Peter Guile. What a terrific night we had. Congratulations to those who designed and decorated the restaurant which I'm sure will become as popular as the other "night spots" on Norfolk.

...new daughters for the Turtons and the Semples...

Great excitement in the Turton household on Friday. Pauline proudly presented her family of "men folk" with a lovely little girl who was born at the Hospital about 4am on Friday morning. They've decided to call her Vanessa. As Robert explained to the customers at the fish shop, "Yes, Dad's pleased but he had to wait all night from 10 o'clock." (No mention of what Mum was doing!.) Well done, Pauline and Keith.

Also very proud of their little daughter, Eve, are Suzanne and Lester Semple who returned to Norfolk just before school started. Eve was born at the hospital in Newcastle on 5th January. Whilst Suzanne is enjoying being at home with the baby, Lester has begun teaching again at the local school. Congratulations to Lester and Suzanne.

February 22 was Thinking Day for the worldwide Movement of Scouts and Guides. The Guides, Scouts, Brownies and Cubs here on Norfolk attended a Church Parade, together with their Leaders, at All Saints, Kingston, last Sunday morning to celebrate Thinking Day, the birthdays of their founders, Lord and Lady Baden Powell. This year is the 50th Anniversary of Thinking Day. The front of the Church was filled with young people looking very smart in their uniforms. Mums and Dads, brothers and sisters, together with friends and visitors filled the rest of the Church almost to overflowing. Greg Precheldt from the Scout Troop and Julianne Bunker from the Guides read the Bible Lessons during the service.

...an ejoyable talk from Colin Berriman...

The Rev. Berriman then gave the young people - as well as the Mums and Dads - a good deal to think about in his address on Thinking. The children particularly enjoyed Mr. Berriman's account of a game he has played in a Fellowship group where a person would be blindfolded then placed on a chair. Four of his friends would then lift the chair off the floor only about 2 inches but to the fellow on the chair it felt as though he was right up in the air. Then his friends would make him jump off the chair. Of course he would refuse - his friends would then pull him off. The poor fellow thought he was right up in the air and would crash to the floor! Bet that's one of the next games to be played at the Fellowship here on Norfolk. It was a lovely service and very heartening to see the Church so full.

Must tell you about a beaut new "toy" we have in our kitchen which is giving us all a good deal of fun - an electric blender. Ever used one? As well as making all sorts of exotic milkshakes etc. it can also make very refreshing fruit drinks. We made a beauty the other day with orange juice, watermelon, pineapple, red guavas and ice. Delicious! The funniest thing I've tried with it is mashing up vegetables. Decided last week I'd mash all the vegetables together so tipped them into the blender, added butter and milk, then switched on. Hey presto - vegetable sauce!. Imagine the comments from the family but they all added it was very tasty. It's terrific too for crushing biscuits and making breadcrumbs.

At last after quite a long dry spell the thirst of the gardens and tanks has been quenched. Sunday night and Monday have been very wet and now with the dust washed off them the plants are looking quite bright again and the lawns are growing almost before one's eyes. Guess next weekend will mean another session with that cantankerous lawnmower!

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'dars Norfolk'

SENATOR REG. WITHERS, Minister of Administrative Services and thus the new Minister responsible for the governing of Norfolk, will be coming here for a few days toward the middle of the month.

Mr. Peter Lawler, Secretary and permanent head of the Department, will be here too.

They are besieged with work, in a particularly trying period for Australia. Norfolk Island is only one speck of their responsibilities; we understand their Department has a staff of about 8,000 public servants, dealing with thousands of national and indeed international problems.

They pay respect to Norfolk by making time, and taking the energy, to visit the Island, even briefly. It certainly won't be a holiday.

They will be trying to form fast, accurate impressions of Norfolk in 1976. They will no doubt be told about some difficulties and worries --official visits precipitate such concerns, the way seeing the doctor at a party suddenly reminds you that your elbow has been hurting lately.

But they must gain, generally, the impression that Norfolk is very fortunate, and that the Island is able to steer its own ship pretty well without constant instructions being called out by navigators in Canberra.

Sen. Withers and Mr. Lawler will surely be assessing where they might make budget cuts related to Norfolk. If it's true that Australian Departments have been spending nearly $2,500,000 a year on our affairs, then there has to be room for heavy cutting somewhere, and cutting ought to be done.

In trying to get a current feel for the Island in a few days, our visitors will unfortunately miss something deep, something that can be learnt only over a period of time. For their reading on the flight back home, we offer the following short recollection, which has overtones of Norfolk's deeper side. It's from the papers of a very old friend of the editor:

•

"Mr. Gilbert Bailey was my friend. He lived for 94 years. His home was back off Collins Head Road. He was a descendant of the mutineers of the Bounty and was a bit vague during the last year or so of his life. He always recognised me and we had some wonderful chats together. He often complained to me about his wife, whom he kept looking for even though she had died several years before, and wished she would hurry up and come home to make him an applie pie.

"Gillie used to walk back and forth from his home to Burnt Pine and still had a spring in his step, though his shoulders were a bit hunched over. He had clouded brown eyes and a long, grey beard. His khaki pants were held up with a bit of rope and his sand shoes, on bare feet, often needed a bit of a scrub. He used to carry a crumpled two dollar note in his pocket which he was saving to give to his father or his wife when he met up with them.

"Gil's family would bring food so he didn't need to spend much on anything. There really weren't many requirements for that two dollar note.

"Gil loved "his God" and got excited about how wonderful it was to be alive and how beautiful his Island was and how wonderful all the cars were and how good the world was to him. His days were spent walking, rejoicing and playing his harmonium.

"The harmonium gave him his greatest happiness of all. It looked as though it would collapse in one heap of rubble, with its legs splayed out and the hinges on the keyboard cover broken. The ivory keys were orange, they were so old. The stool he sat on was rickety. The room was full of small piles of wood chips ready for the fuel stove, and stacks of old tin dishes and a pie safe.

"When Gil played his harmonium the whole world came alive. His hands were ancient but had no trouble finding the keys, even though they shook on their way down to the keyboard. They found perfect harmonies, and his voice, although a little raspy at 94, bellowed out words to the world's most beautiful hymns - the Pitcairn hymns - hymns of gratitude and praise, of hope and love.

"The Pitcairn anthem was one:

Then shall The King say unto
those on His right hand:
Come ye blessed of my Father,
inherit the Kingdom prepared for you
from the foundation of the world.
For I was hungered and ye gave
me meat,
I was thirsty and ye gave me drink,
I was a stranger and ye took me in,
naked and ye clothed me;
I was sick and ye visited me,
I was in prison and ye came unto me;
Inasmuch as ye have done it unto
one of the least of these my brethren,
ye have done it unto me.
Ye have done it unto me.

"Music, music -- perfect chords and perfect fingering. It was a treat to hear him. He always made me happy. This old man, in an old home badly in need of repair, on an island that was once the scene for the worst convict settlement in the world, in a room full of wood chips and tin dishes--always brought me a great sense of peace."

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